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MBC Asks For New Pornography Laws, Applauds Clergy Privacy Safeguards

NOV 30 1976

by Tim Nicholas

Acting on the Mississippi Supreme Court's recent ruling that declared Mississippi laws too broad to restrain the sale of pornographic materials, Mississippi Baptists in their annual meeting, Nov. 16-18, passed a resolution asking for effective legislation against the sale of pornography.

Messengers to the 141st annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention voted unanimously for the resolution which read in part: "Therefore be it resolved; that we encourage the members of our churches to speak to their legislators and other elected officials about instigating some new and effective legislation against the sale of pornography in our state... that we encourage parents to be more responsible in teaching the biblical concepts of sexuality and interpersonal relationships that our young people; knowing the more excellent way of Christian love and marriage, will not be tempted to the bypaths of immoral conduct."

During the three-day meeting at First Baptist Church, Jackson, the 1,306 registered messengers elected Robert Hamblin, pastor of Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo, as their 1977 president, and adopted an \$8.4 million budget.

Other officers elected were Gene Triggs, first vice president; John Barnes, Jr., second vice president; Joe Odle, recording secretary; and Paul Harwood, assistant recording secretary.

The budget, which covers the work of all the institutions and agencies of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is the largest ever adopted, 15 percent more than the 1976 budget. All gifts are strictly voluntary from the 1,900 participating churches in the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Institutions and agencies in Mississippi are budgeted to receive \$2,425,242. The largest figures in this

category are \$1,512,000 for Christian Education, which includes the work of the four Baptist related colleges in Mississippi, and \$165,000 for the Children's Village, the convention's children's home.

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board programs are budgeted for \$2,996,000 and administration and promotion will receive \$289,000.

Designated to leave the state for national and international mission causes is \$2,688,000, which helps to support the more than 5,000 home and foreign missionaries under appointment by the Southern Baptist Convention mission agencies.

The messengers, who are authorized by their local churches to vote convention actions, gave the board governing the Baptist Children's Village, which has its main campus in Jackson, permission to purchase a branch center in Tate County, near Independence, which it is currently leasing from Farrow Manor, Inc., should that property be placed on sale. Messengers also authorized the board to lease the property for 99 years, should that option arise.

Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the staff of which carry on the work of the Mississippi Baptist Convention during the year, was authorized by messengers to bor-

row interim funds for construction of the Gulfshore Baptist Assembly in Pass Christian, which was totally destroyed by Hurricane Camille in 1969, a sum not to exceed \$1.5 million. Messengers were told that floors at the facility are being poured now.

Three Mississippi Baptist churches were especially recognized for their giving to the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified giving program, which has voluntary participation by 34,000 churches.

First Baptist Church, Jackson, gave a total of \$133,819 to the CP during the year, and also had the top total dollar increase of \$67,987 in 1976 over 1975. Frank Pollard is pastor. The top church in per capita giving was First Baptist of Leland, whose pastor, James Richardson, served in this year and last as president of the convention, giving \$72.54 per member. And Harmon Baptist Church, Harmon, had the largest per capita increase in 1976 over 1975 with an increase of \$30.94 per member. J. D. Stanfill is pastor.

During the convention a banquet honoring retiring Convention Board staffers was held with Gordon Sansing of Meridian, retired Mississippi Baptist evangelism director, speaking.

Honored were Joe Odle, for 17 years editor of the Baptist Record, and Carey Cox, who retires this year as



executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation.

Convention president James Richardson named a five member

Committee on Committees which, in turn, places Baptists from around the state to serve on other committees relating to the convention. Named were Gordon Sansing, pastor, First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, chairman; Lucius Marion, pastor, Clarksdale Baptist Church; Ferrell Cork, pastor, First Baptist Church, Aberdeen; J. Roy McComb, pastor, First Baptist Church, Columbia; and Bill Duncan, pastor, First Baptist Church, Long Beach.

In other business sessions, messen-

gers passed resolutions commending the state legislature for passing this year a law according the clergy the right of confidential privilege. Now a minister may not be required by the court to divulge information passed between the minister and a person he counsels.

And in a resolution, they honored Richard Aubrey McLemore, recently deceased Mississippi educator, who was for 11 years president of Mississippi College and was at one time act-

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Out-Of-State Speakers Use Triumphant Church Theme

by Don McGregor

John Claypool, who will leave the pastorate of Broadway Baptist in Fort Worth on Dec. 12 to assume the position as pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, was one of six out-

of-state speakers who delivered messages last week during the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Three of the speakers are natives of Mississippi, and even Claypool has family ties in the state. Only Ralph

Smith, pastor of Hope Park Baptist Church in Austin, and Glendon McCullough, executive director of the SBC Brotherhood Commission had no Mississippi connections.

The theme of the convention was "A Triumphant Church in a Troubled World," and Claypool spoke on "A Triumphant Church... Caring." He pointed out that "care is at the heart of God, and we are made in the image of God." He continued the thought to say that "everyone in our congregations has the capacity of caring because of being made in the image of God." If you think only of yourself, that is the essence of immorality, he declared. At the other end of the spectrum is the all-encompassing God who takes everybody into account, he said. He added that the challenge of the pastor is not to create the capacity of caring but to draw it out. The caring person, he said, will ask himself if he has something a person needs rather than asking if the person is worthy of his care.

"Needs justify ministry," he stated and pointed out that in trying to determine who is a neighbor the question should be, "Do I have anything given me by God that I can give a needy person?"

The closing address was delivered by Edwin Young, pastor of First Baptist Church, Columbia, S. C. He said that when pastors and others who get involved into church activities begin to try to juggle too many programs and keep them all going, something has to be placed aside. Usually what is put aside are matters from our own per-

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99 Year Term

Convention Okays Farrow Manor Purchase or Lease

Authorization to either purchase or lease for 99 years the facilities of Farrow Manor, Inc. by the Mississippi Baptist Children's Village was established last week by messengers to the 141st annual session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Messengers adopted an amended recommendation from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board that will allow the board of trustees of Baptist Children's Village to negotiate with Farrow Manor, Inc. for disposition of the property.

The recommendation presented to the convention stated "that the Baptist Children's Village be authorized to purchase the assets of Farrow Manor, Inc. by assuming such indebtednesses of Farrow Manor, Inc. as the Board of Trustees of the Baptist Children's Village may deem appropriate, expedient and equitable, in the event such assets be offered for sale, publicly or privately, under negotiated and voluntary circumstances or under circumstances forced upon Farrow Manor, Inc., by a third party or parties through a default by Farrow Manor, Inc. in the orderly payment and satisfaction of its financial obligations, in-

cluding bonds and interest coupons accruing pursuant to existing Farrow Manor, Inc. bond issues."

On the convention floor the recommendation was amended to add, "Further, that the Baptist Children's Village be, and is hereby authorized, in the alternative, to purchase and/or lease for not less than 99 years, all or any part of subject assets, by payment or assumption of the bonded indebtedness of Farrow Manor, Inc. if the judgment of the Board of Trustees of the Baptist Children's Village so dictates." This amendment was offered by Dr. Larry Fields, pastor of First Church, Summit and member of the Village Executive Board.

Since July of 1975 the Baptist Children's Village has operated a branch installation at the Farrow Manor properties in Tate County. According to the lease agreement, the Children's Village has operated this branch children's home at its expense in buildings provided by Farrow Manor.

Farrow Manor, Inc., has been declared to be in default on its indebtedness, however the agreement between the Children's Village and Farrow Manor, Inc. remains in effect.

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GOOD NEWS OF A GREAT

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS
November 28—December 5, 1976
National Goal: \$29,000,000.00

1977 MBC Officer Slate Includes Tupelo Pastor, Yazoo City Layman

Robert L. Hamblin, pastor of Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo, was elected president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention during its 141st annual meeting Nov. 16-18, in Jackson.

Also elected by the 1,306 registered "messengers" to the convention meeting were Gene Triggs, first vice president; John Barnes, second vice president; Joe Odle, recording secretary; and Paul Harwood, assistant recording secretary.

Hamblin, a native of Hamilton, Ohio, has been pastor of the Tupelo church since 1968. He has been president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and is currently chairman of the board's Executive Committee. He earned the doctor of theology degree from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Triggs, a layman, is assistant to the president of Mississippi Chemical Corporation in Yazoo City. A Mississippi College graduate, Triggs was for-

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Pictured left to right are 1977 convention officers: Gene Triggs, first vice president; Robert Hamblin, president; Joe Odle, recording secretary; John Barnes, Jr., second vice president; and Paul Harwood, assistant recording secretary.

Hamblin, New MBC President, Is "Deeply Spiritual, Consecrated"

By Anne McWilliams

His father was named for a United States president, Millard Fillmore. One of his three daughters is studying to be a doctor.

He finished first in his class at Southwestern Seminary when he received the doctor of theology degree.

He has not missed attending a state Baptist convention in the 18 years he has been pastor of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo.

Dr. Bob Hamblin is a preacher, a scholar, an author, and a denominational leader—and he is your new convention president.

When Dr. Bill Causey, pastor of Parkway Church, Jackson, nominated Hamblin, he said, "My nomination grows out of contact with him when he preached a revival at our church. I found him to be a deeply spiritual, consecrated, Bible-studying Baptist preacher. He communicated to me a deep love for and walk with the Lord."

"He has served as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; president of the Executive Committee of the Convention Board; vice-president of the Executive Committee of the Brotherhood Commission, SBC; member of the SBC Committee on Boards, associational moderator, president of the ministers' Alliance and Pastors' Conference in his city; member of the Board of Trustees of Clarke College and Mississippi Baptist Seminary."

"I found him to be mystical in his walk. He revealed to me how distinctly sure he is that God has led him in every step of his life."

Bob Hamblin was born in Hamilton, Ohio, one of a family of five boys and two girls. When he was about three, he moved to Memphis where he was baptized nine years later at Merton Avenue Baptist Church, and where he graduated from high school.

When he was 17 and World War II was still being fought, he became a Sunday School teacher at the Hollywood Baptist Church in Memphis. The relationships and the work in that class led him to the belief that God was calling him into the ministry. Perhaps another factor was that his earliest hero was his pastor, the Rev. Law-



1977 president Bob Hamblin, accepts president's gavel from 1976 president James Richardson.

ence Riley, who is now retired and living in Amory, Miss.

At Union University in Tennessee he majored in history. During college days he accepted his first pastorate at Grace Church, Ripley, Tenn. and was ordained by the North Jackson Church in Jackson, Tenn. It was in Ripley that he met Mary Ruth Miller, whom he married August 27, 1948.

Other Tennessee pastorates were Pleasant Grove Church, Covington, and Ellistown Avenue Church, Memphis.

While he was studying for five years at Southwestern Seminary he was pastor at Garner, Tex. At the same time he worked in Chikotsky's Grocery Store in Fort Worth—he says that the first job he ever had was in a Memphis grocery store.

His doctoral dissertation topic was "Synactical Analysis of I Peter with Special Reference to the Greek Participle."

Hamblin and his wife have three daughters. The oldest, Bobbie, now Mrs. Warren Monger, is a teacher in Tupelo. Karis Jan is in medical school in Jackson. Mary Carole is in the ninth grade.

The Hamblins moved to Tupelo in 1958. Harrisburg Church, where he is pastor, has just completed a "To-

gether We Build" program. The members are worshipping in a new sanctuary, and are ready to build a new education building, with bids to be taken next month.

Among the books Dr. Hamblin has written are *Studies in Galatians* and *The Spirit-filled Trauma*, the latter published by Broadman. His travels have included mission trips to Latin America, Europe, and the Near East. His hobbies are reading and golf, but he says he'd like to play a lot more golf than he does.

On the morning after his election, President Hamblin said, "I would like to see all Mississippi Baptist churches become as deeply involved in the Cooperative Program as we can, and the spirit of cooperation and fellowship intensely developed."

Ministers Relate Church's Role In "Bible Treasures" Addresses

"The more Jesus changes us, the more changes go on around us," said Mel Craft, to messengers to the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Leading in a convention feature called "Bible Treasures" Craft, pastor of Tylertown Baptist Church, Tylertown, told the congregation that lag time needs to be lessened in the church: "between what Jesus wants and what Jesus gets, between what Jesus said and what gets said, and between what Jesus wants done and what gets done."

Craft was joined during the three day convention by five other speakers who reflected different aspects of a triumphant church, relating to the theme of the convention, "A Triumphant Church for a Troubled World." "The change in us," said Craft, "is the only demonstrable evidence Jesus has in proving God's will is good, God's will is perfect, God's will is acceptable."

S. A. Adkins, pastor of Rocky Creek Baptist Church in Lucedale, told what he believes is the major function of the New Testament church. "It is to lead all people to salvation in Jesus Christ. People do not come to church to be entertained. The world offers much for people who seek only this."

He said that too much of a minister's preaching falls short of the standard for biblical preaching. "We try to be scholarly, dramatic, funny, pleasing, and brief, while we neglect to tell people how to be saved."

James Fancher, a Jackson-based evangelist, aimed at the church member's responsibility, relating the story of the boy and his lunch. "The lad gave his all. It wasn't fancy—just biscuits and sardines. It isn't so much what you have as it is that all you have is at God's disposal."

Fancher said the boy could never have fed all those people on his own. "He had to let Jesus take and break and bless what he had before it could be adequate."

Then Fancher equated what the disciples did to the church member's job. "The disciples stood between Jesus and the multitude. Their assignment was to distribute the bread and fish. We can pass out the gospel bread faithfully, diligently, dependably, with much rejoicing as needs are met."

Another area where God will always



Oklahoman Sings

Jamali Badry, evangelistic singer from Oklahoma City, sang special numbers throughout the convention. His presentations included: "For Those Tears," and "A Name I Highly Treasure."

1977 Officers

(Continued from page 1) five years assistant commissioner of agriculture for the state. He is a deacon in First Baptist Church, Yazoo City and is currently president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Barnes is pastor of Main Street Baptist Church, Hattiesburg. Odle is the recently retired editor of the Baptist Record, weekly newspaper of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. And Harwood is pastor of Lyon Baptist Church, Lyon.

Convention Okays Purchase Or Lease

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row Manor establishes a 15-year lease with three five year options to renew.

Parties on both sides of the agreement are "working very hard to reach an agreeable conclusion" to the problem that has arisen because of the default, according to Paul Nunnery, superintendent of the Children's Village. He added that the action by the convention to authorize the Village to buy the assets or to lease them for 99 years would give the Village trustees more authority and versatility to help find an agreeable conclusion.

Nunnery is hopeful that the Village will be able to continue to operate its child care ministry in that area. In addition to the considerable expenditure of getting the work established is the fact that the rural setting is attractive for the type of ministry that it is, he said. There are three cottages on the Farrow Manor campus which are being used to house the youngsters.

Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Dallas (RNS)—Evangelist Billy Graham warned participants in the National Prayer Congress here that there are Satanic-inspired efforts underway to split believers and sow discord among the faithful. In a 15-minute tape recorded message, Mr. Graham declared that "there is an attempt by Satan today to spread errors among God's people and to take texts out of context. The Scripture said that he who spreads discord among the brethren is an abomination to the Lord."

MADRID, Spain—The Spanish Baptist Seminary opened the fall semester in new quarters when classes began here recently. The seminary is housed in the new Baptist Center located in Alcobendas, a suburb of Madrid. The offices of the Spanish Baptist Union, the Baptist Mission and the correspondence course are also located in this new building.

HONG KONG—"The church is the media—the church is the message as an incarnation of Jesus Christ" was the overriding theme of the first Asian Christian Communications Strategy Seminar meeting here recently. Some 124 delegates from 14 Asian countries discussed ways to meet the changing situation in Asia and to prepare the church for the future.

PLAYON CHICO, San Blas Islands—Two San Blas Islands government officials wrote a letter of thanks to the Panama Baptist Mission for \$2,000 worth of machines and equipment given to the government clinic here. Southern Baptist Missionary Ruth (Mrs. Ervin L.) Hasty commented, "Thank the Lord for Southern Baptists who make possible the money to fill the needs of people. I know the government officials and all the people here would like to say 'thank-you' in their native language of 'kuna' to you who love the Lord and sacrifice for needs such as these to be met around the world."

BANGKLA, Thailand—Dr. John H. Tatom, missionary, has been on loan to the Thailand Baptist Mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries) this past year. A surgeon, he has been working at the Thailand Baptist Hospital here while Dr. Alton Hood, also a Southern Baptist missionary, has been on furlough. Dr. Tatom, appointed in 1970, until this year has served in Indonesia.

LISBON, Portugal—The largest enrollment in the history of the Portuguese Baptist Seminary, 18 students, heard the fall term's opening sermon by Herlander Mario Felizardo in services here recently.



Retirees Honored During MBC

A banquet during the time of the Mississippi Baptist Convention last week honored Dr. Joe T. Odle, who recently retired as editor of the BAPTIST RECORD, and Rev. Carey Cox, who will retire Dec. 31 as executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation. Dr. Gordon Sansing of Meridian was the speaker, and he spent some time poking fun at the honorees. Above Rev. and Mrs. Cox enjoy some of the humor cast in their direction as Mrs. Sansing, right, chuckles also.

Out-Of-State Speakers Use Triumphant Church Theme

(Continued from page 1)

sonal lives, he declared.

He mentioned specifically "our own physical bodies" and family relationships. He noted that children in the home learn by precept and example lessons that will go with them throughout their lives. He added that each person also is responsible for his own personal trusting place with God. He said, "We cannot spend all our time on the mountain top or our lives will not be usable in the valley where the needs are. But if a life is spent almost entirely in the valley it will not be worth sharing." He warned that pastors can become so involved in hobbies and sports that their churches can die, and "I personally don't believe God intends for any church to die." He added, "Some preachers spend too many hours behind the pulpit on negative things when I believe the gospel is positive."

In a session dedicated to emphasizing missions Carolyn Weatherford, executive secretary of the SBC Woman's Missionary Union, said, "There are exciting career opportunities for missionaries in every part of the world. The demands of the day require the best qualified, the most stable, and the most creative people our churches have to offer. Can the triumphant church fail to provide personnel to meet the overwhelming needs of the world today?"

She added: "People who make up the sharing church are people who recognize that their commitment is to a person, not to a program. Jesus called his disciples to be with Him so that He could then send them out. In comparing the fruitful Christian to the branches of a vine, Jesus said that He was the vine, the source for the fruit bearer. The limbs that do not bear fruit have no right to take strength from the fruit-bearing limbs. As we abide in the vine we learn where we are to go, what we are to do when we get there. Jesus has chosen us, ordained us, sent us to bear fruit. The sharing church is not self-appointed but God-chosen. We need only to accept the appointment."

Miss Weatherford is a native of House, Miss.

The same session on missions was addressed by Lewis Myers Jr., a former missionary to South Vietnam who now works with the Home Mission Board in Vietnamese refugee resettlement. Myers is from Cleveland,

Miss. The former missionary to Vietnam said that the whole Vietnamese involvement "has made me prouder than I ever thought I'd be of our two mission sending boards. As Vietnamese persons came to the United States our boards said, 'We intend to be involved, wherever you are.'"

He added that the 500 Vietnamese Baptists who came to the United States as refugees now have 30 worshipping stations involving 5,000 Vietnamese persons. "We should be proud of them," he declared.

He said he really believes that everyone in the world can have the opportunity of worshipping in a New Testament church before the end of the century. This has been established as the goal of Southern Baptist missions efforts. "The way to do it," he said, "is to focus on the centrality of the local church."

"I do not believe that any Christian achieves his full potential outside the fellowship of the local church," he declared.

He pointed out that the witness to every person the missions forces at home and abroad would have to be doubled, and that would call for appointing 9,000 missionaries. "They

would have to come from and be recommended by local churches."

Smith pointed out that "sometimes our Christian experiences are not as tasteful and delightful as we would like for them to be." But he indicated that "we can know that the end of the story is going to be triumphant." He told of turning to the end of an exciting book to see how it would come out. Then, holding up his Bible, he asked, "Have you read the end of the Book? God is going to wipe away every tear."

McCullough said that there are few vocations in God's Kingdom that couldn't be used in church work. He pointed out that Moses asked who he was that he would be able to handle the task that God outlined for him. He said, "God answered, it doesn't make any difference who you are. It's who I am."

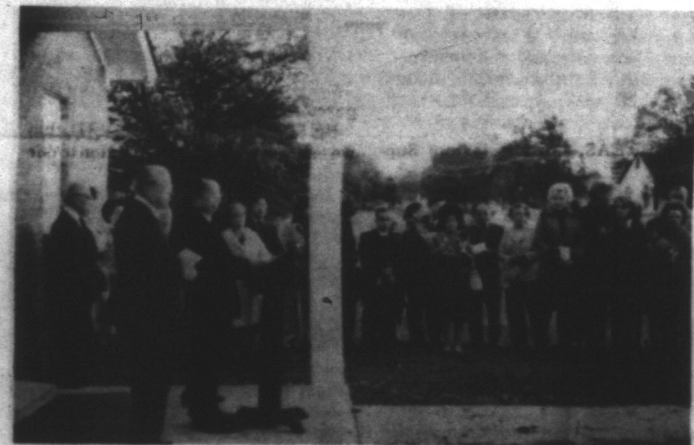
He told the story of a young Japanese man who was taking English lessons from an American teacher just to learn English. Even though the teacher was using the Bible as a basis for teaching, the Japanese had not intended to become a Christian. He wrote later, "I did not wish to become a believer, but I was defeated by her prayers."



Singing The Christian National Anthem

The Mississippi Singing Churchmen and the Mississippi Singing Churchwomen performed the Hallelujah Chorus together during the MBC under the baton of Dan Hall, director of church music for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Newly elected officers making up the Singing Churchmen's executive committee are: president, Truitt Roberts; vice-president, J. T. Hannaford; secretary, Agnes Ratson; area directors, George McFadin (NE), Kenneth Forbes (NW), J. M. Wood (Central), Lloyd Mims (SE); publicity, Bill Sellers; instrumental, Don Bennett; audio/visual, John McCall, III.



Sweet And Sour Thanksgiving

Prior to entering their new fellowship and education hall, the congregation of Chinese Baptist Church in Cleveland and some of their friends begin their Thanksgiving service with special opening ceremonies. Pastor Chee Wa, introduces special guests in photo. Inside a Chinese-American dinner was waiting. Besides the turkey and dressing, was sweet and sour pork, chop suey and rice, and almond cookies. More than 250 came for the service and dinner, which is an annual affair.

Pornography Laws Asked

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ing president and dean of Mississippi Southern College, later to become Mississippi Southern University. With his wife, he authored the textbook, *The Mississippi Story*, which is used by grade schools in the state, and co-authored *Our Nation's History*, used in all 50 states. He also wrote *A History of Mississippi Baptists*.

Along with the sermons, special Bible messages, and topical presentations, which go along with any Baptist convention, messengers had a chance to not only give their attention, but

their blood. A special blood donor program, in cooperation with the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, extracted 38 pints of blood from those attending the convention.

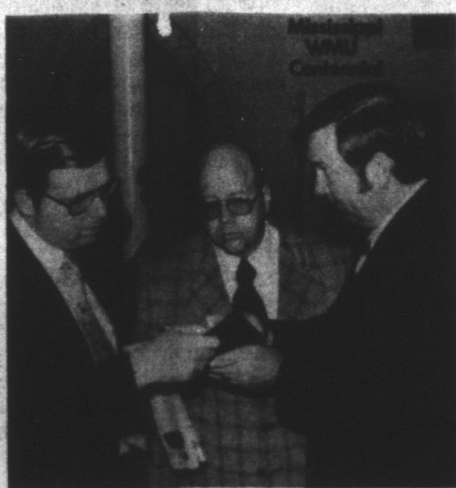
The 1977 meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention was scheduled for Nov. 15-17 in Jackson with Carl Savell, pastor of Woodville Heights Baptist Church, Jackson, preaching the convention sermon. Zeno Wells, of Pascagoula, director of missions for Jackson Baptist Association, is the alternate preacher.



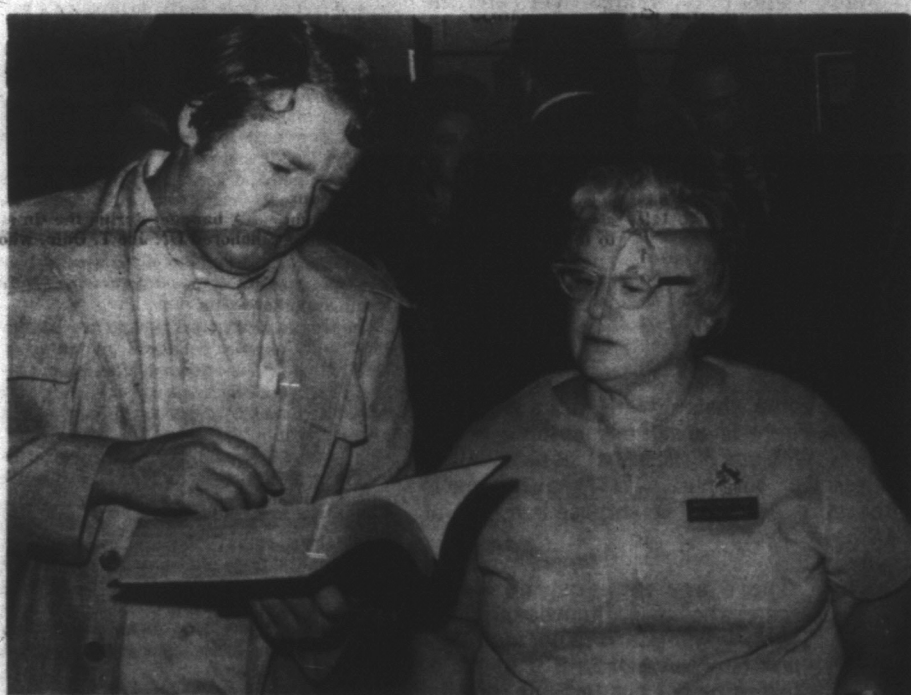
Young Entertainer

Jay Bewley, ventriloquist, entertains at the Baptist Men's banquet prior to the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Paul Harrell of the convention board staff, gives Jay his full attention.

Meanwhile, Outside The Auditorium - - -



Pictured clockwise from the top left are: C. R. Williams, retired furniture salesman, and G. L. Myrick, retired banker, both of First Church, Kosciusko; Sue Sims, Ann Root, and Sara Perkins, members of Morrison Heights Church, Clinton; Lyn Nations, associate pastor, West Jackson Church, Drew D. Blanton, pastor, Ozyka Church, and Bobby Walker, pastor, Emmanuel Church, Jackson; Woodrow Horn, pastor, First Church, Houlika, and Alpha Gambrell, wife of bookstore manager; Amy and Bob Sanderson, pastor, Calvary Church, Waynesboro, and Kathy Bearden, BSU director, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Jackson; Cheryl Shoemaker, First Church, Brooklyn, and Jane Albritton, Utica Church, both pastors' wives. (Tim Nicholas Photos)



Resolutions Passed Unanimously At MBC

NO. 1 — RESOLUTIONS OF APPRECIATION FOR RICHARD AUBREY McLEMORE ON BEHALF OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST HISTORICAL COMMISSION

WHEREAS, historians find the resolutions included in the Minutes of the convention annual a rich source of historical data, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard Aubrey McLemore was not only a maker of history in the area of Christian Education, but also the recorder and preserver of historical data and materials, and

WHEREAS, Dr. McLemore served as executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission from July 1, 1968, until his recent death on August 31, 1976, Mississippi's trustee of the Southern Baptist Historical Commission and president of the Southern Baptist Historical Society, and

WHEREAS, Dr. McLemore is the author of A History of Mississippi Baptists, published in 1971, writer and editor of many church histories, historical papers, and articles concerning Baptists and Mississippi Baptists in particular;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: 1. that we appropriate this means of expressing our appreciation and gratitude for his superior leadership and services to Mississippi Baptists in all areas of history;

2. that we recognize the encouragement which he gave to students and others in preserving historical data and writing histories of interest to Mississippi Baptists;

3. that his photograph be placed in the Minutes of the 1976 Mississippi Baptist Convention Annual as a memorial; and

4. that a copy of these resolutions be sent to his distinguished wife, Nannie Pitts McLemore, who has been his devoted co-laborer in all these achievements.

NO. 2 — RESOLUTION CONCERNING SALE OF PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS, INCLUDING MOVIES

WHEREAS, pornography or sexual obscenity continues to be portrayed through movies, television, music lyrics, magazines, paperbacks and newspapers, and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court rules that pornography is not protected under the free speech clause of the constitution and that "contemporary community standards" may now be defined locally instead of nationally, and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Supreme Court has declared our Mississippi laws too broad and not sufficiently specific to restrain the sale of obscene materials, including pornographic movies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: 1. that we encourage the members of our churches to speak to their legislators and other elected officials about instigating some new and effective

legislation against the sale of pornography in our state;

2. that we commend the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission, those government officials and law enforcement officers and the citizenry interested in this problem of moral pollution and pledge our support in efforts to get and enforce adequate constitutional safeguards; and

3. that we encourage parents to be more responsible in teaching the Biblical concepts of sexuality and interpersonal relationships that our young people, knowing the more excellent way of Christian love and marriage, will not be tempted to the bypaths of immoral conduct.

NO. 3—RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, the emotional, mental and spiritual health of many of our citizens depends upon the free and confidential access to clergymen or spiritual advisors; and

WHEREAS, confidential privilege had not been granted to clergymen in the State of Mississippi until July 1, 1976;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this convention expresses its sincere appreciation to the Legislature of the State of Mississippi for extending the right of privileged communication between persons seeking spiritual counsel and the clergymen with whom such communication is sought.

NO. 4—RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, the First Baptist Church of Jackson, and its staff extended an invitation to the Mississippi Baptist Convention and offered their spacious and beautiful facilities, and their generous assistance where ever needed for this the 141st annual session;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that this Convention expresses its sincere appreciation to this great host church, her very capable pastor, and dedicated staff for their invaluable contribution to the convenience, comfort and effectiveness of these days;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that our appreciation be expressed to the city of Jackson, her mayor and other officials for their gracious hospitality;

to our executive secretary and his staff for their invaluable leadership to our convention;

to James Richardson, our President, for his capable leadership and challenging address;

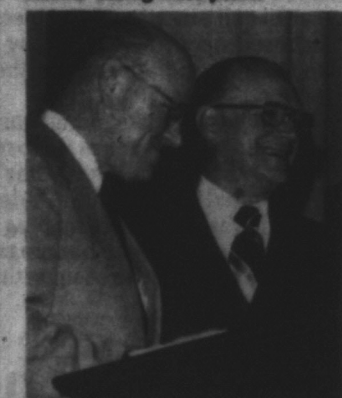
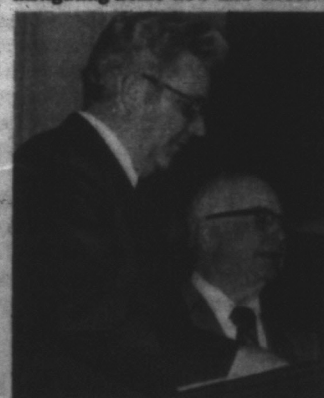
to our Committee on Order of Business for the outstanding program prepared for us this year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express sincere appreciation to our retiring convention personnel;

Joe Odle, for his dedicated and loyal service as Editor of The Baptist Record for the past 17 years;

Carey E. Cox, for unselfish service as executive secretary of the Baptist Foundation; and

Elmer Howell, who has served as Brotherhood Director in a very able manner during these years.



Appreciation Letter Books Presented

Convention board staffers Carey Cox and Joe Odle both retiring in 1976, were honored during the meeting of the MBC. Each was introduced to messengers by his successor. Harold Kitchings introduced Cox, retiring executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation. And Don McGreger introduced Odle, recently retired editor of the BAPTIST RECORD. Both received books of letters from friends.



The Debts Are Paid

Miss Marjane Patterson, executive secretary of the Mississippi Women's Missionary Union, gives check from state missions offering funds to a pastor and an association director of missions to pay off debts on property purchased for church expansion. In the photo at left Miss Patterson hands a check to Rev. Claude Howe, pastor of Highland Church in Senatobia. At right the check goes to Rev. Zeno Wells, director of Association Missions for Jackson County Baptist Association. The Highland Church, Senatobia, payment was for \$15,500; and the check for Jackson Association was to make the final payment on property on Highway 10 in the amount of \$15,522.

Five Mississippi Secretaries

Earn PEP Certification, 1975-76

NASHVILLE — Five Mississippi church secretaries have completed certification requirements under the Church Secretary's Personal Enrichment Program (PEP) during 1975-76.

The secretaries include Lynne Eskridge, First Church, Louisville; Norma Norsworthy, Morgantown Church, Natchez; Caroline Parker,

West Ellisville Church, Ellisville; Charlotte Sadler, First Church, Boyle; and Margaret Taylor, Naxapater Church, Naxapater.

PEP, designed for church secretaries who want to improve job performance, is a project coordinated by the church administration department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Board, Commission Members Elected

Persons elected to boards and commissions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention during the convention's session last week in Jackson are listed below.

Names of New Members Bold type

*At Large Members

Association Name Term

TERM EXPIRES 1978

Chickasaw, Ray McIlwain

Covington, Valeris Lett

TERM EXPIRES 1979

Attala, Johnny Parks

Carroll, William Patton

DeSoto, E. R. White

George, David Merritt

Greene, Maurice Waltham

Grenada, John Lee Taylor

Gulf Coast, Joe Henderson

Hinds-Madison, James Whittington

Holmes, Clayton Bell

Jackson, C. D. Engard

Jasper, W. E. Phillips

Jeff Davis, Billy Greene

James, Herbert Kinman

Lamar, Thomas M. Hall

Lawrence, William E. Webb

Lawrence, C. B. Wicker

Lebanon, Brooks Wester

Lebanon, Powell Ogilvie

Lee, William F. Smith, III

Leflore, M. C. Johnson

Lincoln, P. A. Michel

Monroe, Earl Enell

Montgomery, George Steward

Panola, Everett Denton

Pearl River, William Gray Smith

Perry, Herman McAlpin

Quitman, J. A. Bryant

Scott, Gene Allen

Tate, Roy Myers

Washington, Howard Taylor

Wayne, Charles Gillbert

Winston, Cowan Ellis

Yazoo, James Yalor

Yazoo City

BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

Term Expires 1979

J. B. Culliver

Gay Oliver

Gea Merrill

CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMISSION

Term Expires 1979

Ervin Brown

Tom Dulin

Charles Myers

Mrs. Alvin H. Simmons

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION

Term Expires 1979

Kenneth McGreger

Odell Puckett

Odell Puckett

Odell Puckett

Odell Puckett



Tops In Cooperative Program Giving

Pictured clockwise are John Alexander of the MBC, and J. D. Stantill, pastor, Harbortown Baptist Church; James Richardson, pastor, First Baptist Church, Leland; and Frank Pellard, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jackson. Alexander presented awards during the MBC to the pastors whose churches were among the top in Mississippi in Cooperative Program giving. (See lead convention story.)

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Hard Work, Good Convention

It was a fine convention that we had last week.

This pretty generally seemed to be the consensus of everyone who attended. The music was inspiring, the messages were outstanding, and the spirit was excellent.

This session just completed should give Mississippi Baptists a springboard from which to launch a concerted and an energetic ministry throughout the next year.

A great behind-the-scenes effort is necessary to put together such a fine meeting as we have just had. The leader of the convention always is due a major share of credit because he is so much a part of everything that goes on. There is no question but that Dr. James Richardson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Leland, served during these past two years with a great deal of ability and finesse.

The Committee on Order of Business also has a tremendous input into whatever the convention turns out to be, and this year's committee did their work well indeed. Rev. W. Benton Preston, pastor of Midway Church in Jackson, was the chairman of the committee that worked hard all year long for this convention. He was assisted by Dr. John Lee Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church, Grenada; Rev. Clark McMurray, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pascagoula; Dr. Sarah Rouse, member of the faculty of Mississippi College; Rev. Glenn Sullivan, pastor of Oakhurst Church in Clarksdale; and Dr. Jim Keith, pastor of First Church, Laurel.

The other officers of the convention

also must be afforded a goodly share of credit for a worthwhile meeting. These were Dr. John Traylor, pastor of First Church, Gulfport, the first vice-president; Rev. Robert Shirley, pastor of Parkway Church, Tupelo, second vice-president; Dr. Joe Odle, recently retired editor of the *Baptist Record*, recording secretary; and Rev. Hueston Adkins, pastor of First Church, Mendenhall, associate recording secretary.

There may be many who have read this far who will say this has been no more than a recitation of names. Perhaps, but the people whose names have been presented worked hard and deserve all the credit they can get, for they put together a fine convention.

And here are some more names.

The torch is passed on to a new group of officers. This year all of the officers are new. A few weeks ago the *Baptist Record* erred in saying there is a constitutional two-year limit on the presidency. There is no such limit, but this has been the practice for many years. The historical records show that R. B. Gunter was elected in 1940, 1941, and 1942. Earlier a president who served more than two years was H. F. Sproles in 1903, 1904, and 1905. Previous to 1898 there were several who served more than two years.

The two-year term has been a practice for these many years, however, and this year Dr. Robert Hamblin, pastor of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, was elected president. The new first vice-president is Gene Triggs, a layman from Yazoo City who has been president of the Convention Board; and the new sec-

ond vice-president is Dr. John Barnes Jr., pastor of Main Street Church, Hattiesburg. Even the two secretaries are new. Dr. Odle was elected at the beginning of this year's convention to fill the vacancy created when Horace Kerr accepted a position with the Sunday School Board in Nashville. Rev. Adkins did not wish to be considered for a new term as associate secretary; and Rev. Paul Harwood, pastor of Lyon Church, succeeded him.

All new officers, but look at the list again. What a line-up of experience in Baptist affairs this list represents. The work will move on without missing a beat. The new officers are people of ability and knowledge; and the Convention Board staff under the direction of executive secretary-treasurer Earl Kelly provides a top-quality, on-going ministry of effective service year after year.

It was an interesting convention. A recently developed, nation-wide interest in Southern Baptists and in being born again triggered several press conferences during the meeting. These were handled with a great deal of poise by a new man on the staff, Tim Nicholas, the *Baptist Record* associate editor.

This convention is over, and the feeling is good. Let's not allow this good feeling to lull us into complacency. Already Chairman Clark McMurray and the Committee on Order of Business are working on next year's convention. Let's work to the end that it will be one that will report on a year filled with advances and victories in every area of endeavor.

More Than A Meal

Thanksgiving is an American holiday. It speaks to the character of this nation that a day would be taken each year to call attention to the blessings bestowed upon this people by God, the Creator and the ruler of the universe.

The day of thanksgiving was first observed many years before the birth of the nation, and it has been perpetuated through the decades and centuries as a time for stopping work to give thanks for the blessings that continue to be showered upon this nation.

Not all of us can give thanks. There are many citizens of our land who claim no allegiance to the God who is the source of these blessings. These people are co-recipients of these blessings. Our task is to translate the mercy and love of God into words and actions that will provide a witness to those who do not believe.

For the most part these lines, if they are read at all, may be read following Thanksgiving. That day may have been primarily one of a tremendous dinner, a televised football

game, sleeping late, and a long trip. There is absolutely nothing wrong with any of these, but let us not allow our observation of Thanksgiving to stop there. The purpose is a time of prayer.

There are millions the world around who have no knowledge of our Thanksgiving and who wouldn't know how to relate to it if they did. Most of us are comfortable, but the world is not a pretty sight overall. Let's remember those other folks as we pray.

The Lottie Moon Mirror

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is a world-wide effort among Southern Baptists that somehow, through all of the years of its existence, has been surrounded by a feeling of awe and even excitement.

The writer can remember from days of childhood how the offering always has been accompanied by a time of emotional involvement in the foreign missions effort.

This is as it should be. Missions is the heart of the entire Southern Baptist effort, and our hearts and interests and resources need to be involved.

There is not much to be said that hasn't been said over and over. On

the other hand, the concept of a sizeable, worthwhile offering to help finance our world-wide missions program must never be allowed to become commonplace, and we must never become complacent about it.

The Lottie Moon Christmas offering must always be an exciting and emotional thing. We need to continue to tell the need and continue to tell the story of the brave missionary for whom the annual offering was named. The Lottie Moon Offering receipts finance about half of the total foreign missions needs. We must continue to be generous in our giving.

Southern Baptists have always

been generous with the Lottie Moon gifts. Perhaps it is because the offering comes at Christmas time that the offering has sort of an additional aura of excitement. Christmas is a time when we are accustomed to digging a little deeper for gifts for those we love.

God has shown that His love for us is unfathomable and unmatched, but we can mirror that love to some degree by showing our love and concern for people all over the world who have no hope of being recipients of God's love unless we share it with them through our emotional and financial contributions.

Book Reviews

START LOVING, THE MIRACLE OF FORGIVING by Colleen Townsend Evans (Doubleday, \$4.95, 119 pp.) This is a very personal book, on the subject of forgiveness. Mrs. Evans, a joyful, loving person, tells how she learned to accept God's forgiveness and to pass it on to others.

AMERICA, GOD SHED HIS GRACE ON THEE by Robert Flood (Moody Press, 192 large pages, \$9.95) The place of God and Christian faith in American history. What was behind the discovery of this continent, and the establishment and rapid development (historically speaking) of the greatest nation on earth? This author examines the faith of Columbus, the Pilgrims, and other early settlers, as the foundations were laid. He continues the story of Christian influence in the colonies, in the founding of the nation, and its continuance to this hour. Special attention is given to the

faith of men like Washington and Lincoln. The early churches, the periods of revival, and growth of evangelical groups, all are shown. The present situation, and the needs of strong Christian influence today are presented. The book is well written, uses hundreds of illustrations, most in color, and is attractively printed and bound.

HOW TO TAKE THE WORRY OUT OF WITNESSING by George E. Worrell; Broadman Press; 92 pages; paperback; \$1.75.

The author is on the evangelism staff for the Baptist General Convention of Texas. He shares his convictions that Christians must witness, and he emphasizes the place of the Holy Spirit in guiding and providing the power for witnessing. He says, "Nothing will help to take the fear out of witnessing more than doing it."

WOMEN TO REMEMBER by Nathaniel Olson (Good News, paper, \$2.95, 123 pp.) Here are warmly written portraits of twenty women who made important contributions in American life. Included are such leaders as Marian Anderson, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Helen Keller, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Pocahontas, Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Rachel Carson, and Amelia Earhart.

HIS DARLING WIFE, EVELYN by Mrs. Oral Roberts (Damascus House, distributed by Dial Press, 273 pp., \$7.95) In this autobiography of Evelyn Roberts, she tells the full story of an extraordinary marriage: from her first meeting with Oral Roberts, through early days of marriage to a struggling young minister, through years of raising four children, television ministry, and founding of a University. Attractively illustrated with family photographs.



Elements of the Mississippi Baptist Convention last week were found grouped where Dr. Jim Keith, secretary of the Committee on Order of Business, was watching the time during the sessions. His watch lies on an open Bible beside a copy of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Bulletin for this year.

Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Last Thursday night I watched a football game at Mississippi College. Dr. and Mrs. Earl Kelly were cheering for Circle K—Dana Kelly was on that team—but I was yelling for Civitan because my nephew, Tom Brown, was on their team. I deeply regret to tell you that Circle K won.

This Thanksgiving I'm grateful that we have at our house an "intriguing creature called a college boy."

I always wanted a baby brother. I longed for one, and I prayed for one. Finally I gave up and thought I'd have a boy of my own. When that didn't work out either, I decided I'd have to depend on my sister, Betty, to produce a boy for our family.

On August 1, 1956, Betty made my dream come true. W. D. and I were living in a little white cottage at 1039 Monroe Street, Jackson. When the phone rang that day, I grabbed it. In a quiet, dry voice (about to explode with pride and joy) Daddy announced, "It's a boy!"

They named him Thomas David Brown, the Thomas for his grandfather Washburn and his great-great-grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Langley. I went to see the Browns as often as possible, and I was on top of the world when Tom took his first steps—across the room from his mother to me.

When he and his sisters, Luann and Karen, were ready to enter college, I invited all of them to live with us and go to Mississippi College. The girls chose Auburn instead, but Tom chose MC. I am still amazed at his choice, and my good fortune!

Now when my friends brag about their children or grandchildren, I can brag about my college boy. In high school at Hogsaville, Georgia, he was president of the student body; he won the Kiwanis Club's Science Award; he was given the State of Georgia Certificate of Merit for outstanding achievement in high school; he played the trombone in the band; he was listed in *Who's Who in American High Schools*; he sang in the choir at First Baptist Church.

An art major and a junior he leads a busy life. He's the last one up in the morning and the last one to bed at night. When I start to bed at midnight he's drinking Coke and watching TV,

but his work day is just about to begin, for he has to study for a history exam or finish a watercolor before dawn. Most any time he may be playing tennis or strumming a guitar or talking to the dogs or photographing old houses or doing an oil painting or listening to the radio. He may be telephoning his sisters or planning what he will give his mother and grandmother for Christmas. He may be painting scenery for the Miss MC Pageant or setting up an exhibit for an arts festival. He is adept at watching girls, consuming innumerable pizzas, and cooking steaks. He's not so good at eating vegetables or remembering appointments. He likes jeans and tennis shoes and good-looking suits. He doesn't care much for term papers or professors who give boring lectures.

He knows more about the rules of football than any pro. When he's in a good mood, he can tell better jokes than Bob Hope. He can hang more clothes on a chair than would clothe the Best Dressed Ten. He holds the world's record for leaving a bed unmade for the greatest length of time.

With an inborn sense of direction, he can drive through a city one time, and know it like the back of his hand. Once he did get lost hunting in the woods. Still there after dark, he used the moon as a compass and found his way out.

When mid-term tests come up, he buckles down and makes the grade. To help with finances, he works at a local frame shop. When the Clinton High School needs a judge of floats at homecoming day parade, he offers a helping hand. He runs a mile in the rain in an effort to make money for the Mississippi Lung Association. And with Civitan he plays Circle K, to help give someone a scholarship.

In his spare time he writes poetry, and in it I see a young man who is nearing 21, a deep thinker, and one who cares about other people. It is then I know that with all his madness at midnight, irregular hours, and unusual house-keeping, this college boy is solid. He is loyal to his country and his college, his family and his God.

I'm thankful that Tom, and other college boys like him, are the sculptors of tomorrow.

I Am Thankful

By Paul Vandercook

It is strictly personal to be sure but there are some things for which I am especially thankful this year.

I am thankful for a house to live in... when so many in the world are homeless.

I am thankful to have to worry about gaining weight... when so many in the world are starving.

I am thankful for my family and friends around me... when so many in the world are lonely.

I am thankful for people who care about me and pray for me.

I am thankful for a work to do and strength to do it.

I am thankful for little things like a pair of shoes... and feet to put them on.

I am thankful for memories...

...of my first successful bicycle ride, ...of Santa Claus,

...of my bride coming down the aisle on our wedding day,

...of my grandfather, the carpenter who told us to cut so straight across a board that half the line showing where to cut would be on either side of the cut—not a bad philosophy of life either, is it?

I am thankful for the sight of the sun setting when it seems to sink into the waters of the Gulf, for the sight of a rose in bloom, for the sight of a mother's smile when she looks at her baby, for the sight of my own little girl's arms sticking up at me when I come in the door after a day at work. I am thankful I can see.

I am thankful for the smell of freshly turned earth in the spring, for the spicy aroma of Grandma's kitchen at Christmas time, for the smell of coffee just ground, for the smell of rain on the dry earth. I am thankful I can smell.

I am thankful for the sounds of waves on the

beach, the song of a bird in the trees, the laughter of children at play, for the sound of "I love you, Daddy." I am thankful I can hear.

I am thankful for people I have known, ...for parents who praised me when I deserved it, scolded me when I needed it, and loved me all the while,

...for a teacher of R.A. boys in Tinsley who made me care about missionaries,

...for a professor at Mississippi College who was as concerned about my spiritual welfare as my academic success,

...for people around me today who make my work and my life pleasant.

I am thankful that Jesus loved me—and still hears me when I talk to him.

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“Good News of A Great Joy” Luke 2:10

Saisis d'une grande frayer

vas de grande alegria



MINISTRY TO THE CHILDREN—Kathy (Mrs. John H.) Dillman gives candy to Maasai children in Kenya. She and her husband are from Indiana missionaries stationed in Narousura, Kenya assigned to evangelism among the Maasai (FMB photo by Bob Harper)



RURAL LIFE CENTER SERVES ISLAND—Harold R. Watson, left, missionary assigned to direct a Baptist Rural Life Center, in Davao, Philippines, works with Catolina Jarbadon, farm manager, assembling parts to a small hand plow they designed. (FMB photo by Warren Johnson)



JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD—Missionary Faye (Mrs. Paul A.) Burkwall of Virginia, holds an outcast child, taken in by a Nigerian home missionary. The Burkwalls are stationed in Okuta, Nigeria. (FMB photo by Gerald S. Harvey)



A HEALING OF THE HEART AND BODY—In the Baptist hospital in Bangkok, Thailand, missionary nurse, Rosemary Spessard, of Illinois, and a Thai nurse inspect the oxygen respirator. (FMB photo by Warren Johnson)



GOOD NEWS EMISSARY IN EUROPE—Missionary Rudolph M. Wood gives directions to young men taking a bicycle tour. The Basilica Cathedral in the background is in Waterloo, Belgium, where Wood and his wife are stationed.



MUSIC TELLS THE GOOD NEWS—Missionary John P. Griggs, right, and Cuthbert Mutasa, son of a witch doctor and now a seminary student, use an electric machine to cut stencils for the cover of the Baptist Choir Book Griggs is compiling. They are at the African Baptist Theological Seminary in Gwelo, Rhodesia.

kesukaan besar Habari njema ya furaha Ihin-re

Women At The Convention Speak, Usher, Sing, Vote

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Traditionally, the annual program of the Mississippi Baptist Convention has been planned and carried out almost entirely by men, though women have served as messengers for many years. To a small degree, the pattern is changing. This year, perhaps 95 to 98 percent of the people on program were men. But women were in the picture, too.

Miss Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, was a keynote speaker, following Miss Marjean Patterson's report of WMU work in Mississippi. Baptist Women were ushers at this

year's convention. Miss Judy Lewis of the Mississippi College speech faculty was chosen as partner of L. E. Green of Pascagoula, for a responsive reading of Scripture.

Bobbie Wood, Carey student and Miss Mississippi, sang "I'd Rather Have Jesus." Selma Badry of Oklahoma presented special music at every session, along with her brother, Jamall Badry.

Mrs. Frank Hart of Jackson was pianist for the convention. Mrs. Hart, the former Eva Aultman, was one of the television personalities in "Spring Street USA," and has been soloist at state and conventionwide meetings.

they are beginning to do so."

Dr. Ralph Noonkester, president of William Carey College, said, "When they picked a woman for this committee, they picked the best!"

Dr. Rouse is professor of English, head of the English Department, and chairman of the Division of Humanities at Mississippi College. Her late husband, Dr. I. E. Rouse, was president of William Carey College.

She holds the B. A. degree from William Carey and the M. A. and Ph.D. degrees from Florida State University.

She has been president of the Mississippi Women's Cabinet of Public Affairs; member of Planning Committee and co-meece for the Governor's Conference on the Impact of Women on the Economy (1974); member of the Mississippi Easter Seal Board of Directors; president of the Southern Literary Festival; chairman of the Mississippi Colleges and Universities English Commission; and president of the Mississippi Division of A.A.U.W.

She is author of the "Mississippi Writers" chapter in the 1973 History of Mississippi edited by Dr. R. A. McInnis. At First Baptist Church of Clinton she is a Sunday School teacher.

President's Wife

"If you haven't already, you should become involved in things of your own. Your husband will be away a great deal in this new role and you will need interests of your own!" This is the advice Mrs. James Richardson, wife of the Mississippi Baptist Convention president for the past two years, says that she would give to Mrs. Bob Hamblin, wife of the newly elected president.

Mrs. Richardson, the former Narcissa Alexander, has been pastor's wife at First Church, Leland, since 1968. She said that her husband as convention president had usually traveled to Jackson at least once a week on convention business. Also he has been guest speaker in many special events across the state in his two years as president.

The only convention she had missed in many years happened to be the one in which Richardson was elected president. She recalled, "Joe McKeever, who nominated James, called and told me of the election. I simply couldn't believe it!" This year, as usual, she was an official messenger from her church.

She doesn't dispense advice that she



would not follow herself. Her own special interests have been working in WMU, and teaching piano lessons. She also enjoys cooking.

For five years she was district WMU president. "I have felt a commitment to missions since I was a GA," she explains. "I like to be a part of missions education because this is what keeps WMU and its works going." (Her sister, Toni, Mrs. Lewis Myers, was a missionary to Vietnam and is now working with Vietnamese in this country.)

Now Mrs. Richardson's children are no longer home. Gary and Jay, twin sons, Ian and Vivien, all live in Jackson and Clinton. Vivien is a sophomore at MC and Gary has two children. Now that they are gone, their mother said she is church pianist and in addition has 42 private piano pupils. "This is a job," she said, "but also is a hobby. I love these children and try to teach them to serve with their talents."

Guest Speaker

Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, in her address on Wednesday evening told about her visit to Coban, Guatemala. She said she felt that she was taking a trip back through the book of Acts to the young church, as she watched the Kekchi Indians share their faith, share in their work, and share in meeting physical needs.

When the earthquake hit Guatemala, this section was not hard hit. The Kekchis could not go the long distance to help rebuild, and they had little money, so they shared what they had—15 tons of corn. This brought \$2,000, which they gave.

Miss Weatherford said that the Kekchis brought their title—corn and

melons—to the front of the church as they arrived. Later they passed the collection plates and gave their offerings beyond the tithe.

"The church is triumphant in the Coban area among the Kekchi Indians," she continued. "The triumphant church is sharing. Can we say the same about the church in Mississippi? What does the church have to share in 1976? Who is responsible for sharing? The church is made up of individuals. No church can become more than the individual members want it to become. Each of us might ask: What do I have that the world needs? What do I have to share?"

She said, "We have the example of Jesus for caring. Matthew records it in chapter 9. Jesus saw the people, perplexed, like helpless lambs, not knowing where to turn. He was moved with compassion, literally sick at his stomach. Jesus went about—and he saw—and he cared. . . . The triumphant church is a concerned church. . . . One way we can share is through prayer." She pointed out that we usually put prayer at the end of our church projects, but that it should be at the beginning, because God moves in response to prayer.

In conclusion she stated, "The triumphant church recognizes that in its share process it is the recipient of God-given powers. Corrie ten Boom asked in a little leaflet on missions: 'Why have we not won the world in these 2,000 years? Is it because we have not been willing to give up everything to follow Jesus? No, it is because we have not been willing to accept everything he has to give.' All power is given unto me," Jesus said. Then he promised, "You shall receive power."

Miss Weatherford was born at House, Mississippi, but with her parents moved to Frostproof, Florida when she was six months old. She is a graduate of Florida State University and New Orleans Seminary. Mobile College last year awarded to her an honorary doctorate.

Before becoming executive director of WMU, SBC, in October, 1974, she had been WMU executive secretary for Florida Baptists. Other professional experience had included such jobs as high school librarian, church youth director, girls' camp counselor, BSU director, Alabama YWA state director, and Florida GA state director.

Her varied special interests include hiking, naturelore, reading, tropical fish, boating.

A writer of feature articles and lesson materials, she is also author of the

book, *Woman's Missionary Union Work in a Church*.

Musician

"Being in Mississippi has been a great experience in the Lord! The people are very nice—so sincere, so hospitable." This was Selma Badry's reaction to her first singing engagement in Mississippi. She is the sister of Jamall Badry, who had been guest musician at the Mississippi Baptist Convention at least twice before this year.

Previously a surgical technician in a hospital in Oklahoma City, she has been a full-time evangelistic singer now for three months. She and Jamall are traveling together as a team. Neither is married. "I don't think either of us will ever make it now!" she laughed.

One of seven children, she was born in Seminole, Oklahoma. Selma and Jamall and Jamell (not twins) are the only professional musicians in the family. Their father, who died two years ago, came to the United States from Syria when he was fifteen years old.

Miss Badry said that she had not yet sung in other state conventions, except in Oklahoma. A member of Sunny Side Baptist Church in Oklahoma, she has been a Christian for six years. Before then, she said she had doubts—but she emphatically underscored the words, "I no longer have any doubts!" She believes that God wants her to serve now through music. "With God's help, I can do all things. He can do all things, much better than I."

She has sold her home in Oklahoma City, and plans to live with her mother at Route 1, Noble, Oklahoma, when she is not traveling.

"Oh, yes," she grinned, "what I really like the best about Mississippi is the accent."



Miss Mississippi

Bobbie Wood, student at William Carey College and the reigning Miss Mississippi, sang "I'd Rather Have Jesus."

DECEMBER, 1976

Sunday School	Dec. 5—Foreign Mission Day in the Sunday School. A day of special recognition in the Sunday School department and class. This day coincides with Foreign Mission Week of Prayer.
Church Music	Carol Sing A congregational "Sermon in Song" for Christmas. HYMN OF THE MONTH: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," page 78, New Hymnal
Student Work	STUDENT DAY AT CHRISTMAS—Dec. 26. A service that recognizes and utilizes college students in their home churches as they acquaint their churches with the ministry of Baptist Student Union on their campuses and relate their own spiritual experiences. This will inform pastors, reassure parents, inspire high school students concerning the worthwhileness of collegiate Christian life, and increase the student's appreciation of his home church in relation to his college life. Posters and suggested programs are mailed to all pastors in early November so they may plan with students during Thanksgiving holidays.
Stewardship	Distribute individual boxed offering envelopes to each member. Send quarterly record of contribution to each church and Sunday-School member. Enclose a "Thank You" folder.
Church Administration	Make reservations for Ridgcrest and Gorieta (reservations received by Jan. 1 have a much better chance of confirmation.)

Around The World

Sacrifice Is Way Of Life

by David R. Grant

Editor's Note:

Dr. David R. Grant, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson and past president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, recently completed an around-the-world trip for the purpose of missions awareness. Over the next several weeks a series of articles by Dr. Grant will discuss his trip.

It is evident, I suppose, that the topic of this article is referring to missionaries overseas. There are two personal convictions I want to share in this article.

One is in the form of refutation of a common statement among our missionaries. Without exception, they claim they are no different from anyone else. My experience in visiting in their homes, dialogueing with them, and observing their work, as well as adjustments, convinces me they are different. They are different in the very highest and noblest that could be said about people.

Their dedication and commitment excel what the vast majority of people of the world have. Their sacrifice is far beyond what the average Christian can conceive. They deny this, too, in saying there is no sacrifice to do the Lord's will.

Sometime ago, I was in an evangelistic crusade in another country. One of the missionaries told an interesting story about a pastor who made a rather unwise statement. The pastor, who had made trips and preached and worked on other than homeland, made the statement that he had done everything the missionaries had done. A missionary who heard the pastor say such a thing whispered under his breath, "except stay." Staying is the true test of dedication and commitment.

They do this at a sacrifice. There is no way a person can leave the comforts and warmth of home, loved ones, and a native culture and go to a distant place apart from these things and not make a sacrifice. The point is, they are convinced it is worth it.

To illustrate my point I want to share an experience. The Fourth of July, 1976, was a great day for a citizen in the United States. Many wonderful and noble programs and services were held in churches and other places celebrating the 200th Anniversary of this great land. On that day, David and I flew from Calcutta, India, to Dacca, Bangladesh. Rev. and Mrs. James Young from Attala County, Mississippi, met us at Dacca; and we rode with them and their family about 60 to 70 miles, or three hours plus, to their home-away-from-home in Peni. We arrived there after dark and sat around their table for the evening meal.

The extent of their celebration was that their family, a summer missionary, David, and I sang happy birthday to America. Stand at one of our airports and see a missionary family love and kiss loved ones goodbye and board that plane for that far away place of work, and you will understand

there is sacrifice.

Some of them make big sacrifices from the economic standpoint. Take, for example, a medical doctor. Most of those who read this know that a good doctor here is capable of making more for one operation than he will draw in salary as a missionary for a month. We were told by some nurses that one doctor could operate so fast that he was asked to slow down because the scrub group could not stay ahead. This particular doctor left a most lucrative practice to serve his Lord for a very moderate income. He goes out into the bush, performs surgery, builds a fire, sterilizes his operating equipment in a pressure cooker, and operates again.

Communication is difficult and many live in isolated and lonely places. They are different and they do sacrifice, in my opinion.

The other statement I want to make is that we found no exceptions to these stands. We talked to doctors, preachers, business administrators, hospital administrators, housewives, radio and T.V. technologists, teachers, musicians, and writers. They all have the same attitude of commitment. We were with these spiritual giants for five and one-half weeks and never heard a complaint. There was no murmuring or dissatisfaction that we detected. Some were misplaced missionaries from Vietnam and were in the process of learning another language in a different culture, but were doing it gladly.

The one most impressive thing about these people that I found was a camaraderie. This is a must to survive, but they possess it in such a beautiful spirit. Their houses are opened to each other. Their tables are also for each other. The working agreement they have in this area overwhelmed me. One will be going from one place to another and will need either a meal and/or night's lodging. It is generally a fellow missionary with whom they stay, leaving a very modest reimbursement. Another personal experience will illustrate this.

Our plans were to visit with Dr. Edgar Burkes in Ibadan, Nigeria. We had to fly into Lagos, Nigeria, and change planes to get to Ibadan. Edgar had written me and shared the possibility of our missing the plane from Lagos to Ibadan. He further instructed me how to go to the home of Missionary Wayne Logan in Lagos if we missed the plane. Well, we did miss the plane and we did go to the Logans' unannounced. Their home and hearts were opened to us. They served us food and make us welcomed. Then they arose from bed very early the next morning and took us to the airport for our flight to Ibadan.

The thing that concerns me about our missionaries is not them, but us. My constant prayer is that we may have a comparable commitment and dedication so that we may hold the rope while they go abroad.

Next I shall discuss some personal needs of missionaries.

Names In The News

Leslie Farmer, Baptist student director at the University of Mississippi will be married on December 4 to Mrs. Etta Lee Moody of Laurel. The wedding is to be at 2:30 p.m. at West Laurel Baptist Church. Their friends are invited.

The Rev. William (Bill) Rakestraw was ordained to the gospel ministry by Calvary Church of Corinth, on November 14. He is the new pastor of Mt. Moriah Church near Iuka. Left to right: Onell Bonds, chairman of deacons at Mt. Moriah; Rev. Bill Rakestraw; Rev. Hugh Rakestraw, pastor of South Green Church in Tupelo; Dr. James Travis, Bible Professor of Blue Mountain College. The Rev. Ralph Culp is pastor of Calvary Church.

Roy J. Wood was ordained to the gospel ministry November 7 by East Howard Church, Biloxi. He is serving as minister of youth education at Memphis Church, Dothan, Alabama, and is enrolled at Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla. Rev. R. L. Frees is the East Howard, pastor.

Jerry Landy surrendered to the gospel ministry recently, at Hanging Moss Church in Jackson. He is now enrolled as a student at Clarke College. Mr. Landy is married to the former Gloria Hare, a native of Pearl, and they have three children. Dr. Paul Wilson is pastor of Hanging Moss Church.



As high school student guests visited Blue Mountain College Departments and met professors in person, these three enjoyed the inspiration in the classroom of James L. Travis and Dr. Douglas Bain. Left to right, the young women and professors are, Debbie Westbrook, West Memphis, Ark.; Suzy Washburn, Blue Mountain; Dr. Travis, Blue Mountain, chairman, Division of Biblical Studies; Claudette Crowder, Wardell, Mo.; and Dr. Bain, professor of Bible, Greek, and psychology.



Gail Stubbs, 12, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Stubbs, has received a six-year perfect attendance pin at Calvary Church, Forest. Mike Stubbs, 8, son of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Mack Stubbs, has received a seven-year perfect attendance pin at Calvary. The Rev. David Thornton is the pastor.

Larry Preston, Hattiesburg, formerly of Picayune, was licensed to the gospel ministry by Ridgcrest Church, Hattiesburg, on November 10. Mr. Preston is married to the former Ruth Thigpen of Picayune. They have one son, Nathan, age five. Mr. Preston is available for pulp supply, interim pastorate, or pastoral work. He may be reached at Route 9, Box 197, Hattiesburg, MS 39401 (telephone 563-3995).

Beyond the Ironing Board

Have you ever thought about how it must have been for Jesus to wake up every morning and remember again that he could not sin for another day? Another whole day without doing one single thing wrong?

When I think about how hard it is to try to overcome one single fault or one single habit, to refrain from doing one single act of revenge or "telling-off," I wonder about how it must have been for Jesus.

When I think about how hard it is to look at a hateful person with love, or to give a gift to a stingy person, or say a kind word to someone I know is two-faced, I think about how it must have been for Jesus.

When I would rather watch a television show than spend some time with a cranky sick friend, or when I can't put my pride in my pocket and renew a broken friendship, or when I pass by the house where a neighbor is lonely, I think about how it must have been for Jesus.

But, then, have you ever thought about how it must have been for Jesus to come to the close of a day and look back and see that He had made it through another day still in good faith and in keeping with the whole reason for which He was here?

When I have prepared for my work well, when I have given love where love is seldom seen, when I have remembered and looked outside myself to use some of my time and energy, then I think about how it must have been for Jesus.

And then I am so thankful to Him. For had He not been faithful all day every day, I would not have a source of power to help me to be faithful some part of every day.

And the most thankful feeling comes when I realize that He can take what I do and make it mean what He needs it to mean in His kingdom's work.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

No More Week Of Prayer Materials Are Available

The demand for materials to use during the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions has been so great that almost the entire supply has been exhausted.

Only Lottie Moon Christmas Offering envelopes remain in stock in the WMU office. If you need offering envelopes, be sure to order them right away.

New York (RNS) — Dr. David R. Wong, president of the Baptist World Alliance, has urged Baptists to work more closely with the world's Bible Societies. "A Division of Evangelism and Education has recently been created in the Baptist World Alliance and it will be the channel for reaching people all over the world more effectively," he said.

Operation Transtotal II Is Now Underway In Brazil

Operation Transtotal II is underway in Brazil, and will take nearly a hundred seminary students and others back to the Transamazon in December.

Incomplete results show almost 1271 new converts. There are now seven organized churches, 30 missions and 50 preaching points along the

Transamazon.

Operation Transtotal, begun in 1975, has been under the direction of Bill Morgan, missionary to Brazil. (Mr. Morgan, a Mississippian, has just arrived in the States for furlough, and will be living at 1427 Fox, Memphis, Tn.)

Operation Transtotal

The Brazilian colonists along the Transamazon Highway sensed the excitement that prevailed last December when the road was "invaded" by the 102 participants of Operation Transtotal. Sixteen teams worked along the stretch of road of 1,000 kilometers between Maraba and Itaituba in the state of Para. Another team went as far as Humaita, in Amazonas, to reach the residents of that vast area.

This operation included 61 students representing 13 theological institutions (Baptist seminaries and Bible institutes), 19 pastors and missionaries from all over Brazil. This was a project of the Home Mission Board of Brazil, Samuel Mitt, executive secretary.

The work was mainly done afoot. Each team had the responsibility of visiting all the colonists along stipulated stretches of the road. The visitors, taking with them Bibles and literature, went from home to home spreading the seed of the Gospel in the hearts of the people. Preaching services were held each night along the various stretches of the road with an average of 60 to 70 persons in each service.

A complete census produced the names and addresses of each family along the great road. This will permit expansion of the work in the future.

As an immediate result 940 people accepted Christ as personal Saviour. A Baptist mission was organized in Rurópolis President Medici. Many preaching points and new works were begun along the road.

When the period of initial impact of the teams were over, 22 workers stayed on in the region to confirm the faith in the hearts of the new believers.

Professor Margarida Lemos Gonçalves participated in Transtotal II as supervisor of two teams near the Agropolis of New Brazil. Having traveled through the Transamazon area years before, she was able to evaluate the progress of the region and give the following reasons for the success of the project Transtotal:

1. Right time — There was a time when many came to the Transamazon in the hope of easy riches. These soon left. Others came to hunt but soon left for areas with more game. Finally came those who would put down roots. These, the two operations of Transtotal have reached with the Gospel.

2. Right people — The work involved in Transtotal is for people with a lot of energy. The appeal was made and young people responded. It was a thrill to see young men and women walking day by day along the road or entering into the side roads under a scalding sun. Only the love of Christ could compel them to do such a task.

3. Right orientation — Great emphasis has been given to the layman for the expansion and consolidation of the work in that region.

Washington (BP) — In an unusual 4-4 tie vote, the U. S. Supreme Court ruled here that employers may not fire or refuse to hire persons whose religious beliefs require them to refrain from working on Saturdays.

Foster Missions Is In Its 15th Year

Victor Paine, pastor of First Baptist Church, Drew, asks a question of Foy Rogers, director of the Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Paine, a pastor in Sunflower Association, which has no resident missionary attended a conference at the Baptist Building to discuss the foster mis-

sions program and how it operates in the state.

Nine associations have foster missionaries who spend at least one day each month in that association helping with planning and promoting an active missions program. The program is in its fifteenth year.

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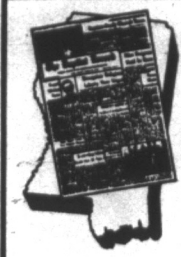
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GREAT GOLF ON THE GULF



Just For The Record

New Hope Church (Tate County) has completed a new pastor's home, at right, and called the Rev. Robert Jenkins as pastor. Rev. Jenkins, his wife, and three children are now living in the home. This church was founded in 1846 and was moved from DeSoto County to the present location.



Mrs. Galla Paxton was guest speaker for the World Day of Prayer held at Riverport Church, on Raceway Road, Greenville, November 1. A prayer retreat was held from 9:30 until 2 p.m. with a covered dish luncheon served at noon. Guests were present from First Church, Greenville; Southside Church, Greenville; First Church, Hollandale; and Arcola Church. Mrs. Jean Tullos, WMU director, states that the church has set \$250 as the goal for their Lottie Moon Offering. Harvest Day was held November 14. The Rev. M. E. Perry is pastor at Riverport. Under his leadership the church has been growing, in membership and in offerings.

At Brooklyn's First Church, a record 102 attended Sunday School, on High Attendance Day, Oct. 31, according to Sunday School director Gary Sumrall. The previous all-time high was 96. A traditional 'breaking a literal phonograph record' over the head of the pastor when a record has been broken, was observed on Oct. 31.

Chester Church, Ackerman, will have dedication services for their new building (auditorium and educational space) on December 5. The program will begin at 10:30 a.m.

The Rev. Gwin H. Middleton, pastor, states that all former pastors, members, and friends are invited. Lunch will be served at the church. In the afternoon, former pastors will be recognized and given an opportunity to speak.



Broadmoor Church, Gulfport, celebrated "Homecoming Day" on October 31. The day began with emphasis on high attendance day with Sunday School director, Billy Myrick, promoting that. The pastor, Rev. Bruce Cappleman, preached on "The Beginning of the New Testament Church."

At noon there was spread an old-fashioned "dinner on the grounds." Special music was presented by the Olivet Trio and by Mrs. Joanne Shaw

and Mrs. Vicki Hopkins. Congregational singing was led by Danny Cook. The highlights of the church history were ready by E. C. Fairly. The name of the large oak tree, located on the northwest corner of the church grounds, was announced. Members had turned in unsigned names during the morning service. The committee on "Name the Oak" met and selected "Missions Oak" in memory of all who have gone out from Broadmoor Church to all parts of the world to serve the Lord.



Woolmarket Church (Gulf Coast) broke ground November 7 for a pastorage. The new home will consist of four bedrooms, three baths, living room, family room, dining room, kitchen, and double garage. It will be built on present church property. Men of the church are laboring together in building, at a savings of approximately \$25,000. Left to right: Gerald Barnes, supt. of building; J. W. Brister, Gulf Coast director of missions; Rev. Russell Bradford, pastor; John Sherman, chairman of deacons; Jerry Cook, Building Committee. Not pictured are: Artie Quave, Johnny Brumley, Jeannie Williams, Building Committee members.



Mississippians who attended the October S.S. Conference at Glorieta are pictured.

Fall Sunday School Meet Termed Successful

GLORIETA, N. M. — Judging from the success of a late October Sunday School Conference here, the fall months at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center may soon become prime time for leadership training sessions.

Approximately 650 persons from 12 states met at the conference center to participate in the first fall season Sunday School Leadership Conference ever held at either Ridgecrest or Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

A. V. Washburn, secretary of the Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, said the conference was experimental to a certain degree in terms of timing.

"We weren't certain when this con-

ference was scheduled how well attended it might be," Washburn said, "but response has been most enthusiastic and encouraging."

Washburn said the success of the conference could signal a new approach to leadership training at the conference centers.

"Many persons present expressed the hope that in the future conferences of this nature would be scheduled in the fall and other seasons besides summer," he said.

"We discovered that a number of people found it more convenient and desirable to come to a fall meeting rather than one in the summer," he added.

The fall conference offered the same number of leadership training hours that a regular summer conference would offer, a total of 16 hours. More training conferences were offered during the afternoon to compensate for the fall conference being one day shorter than summer conferences.

Henry Adrien III, pastor of University Baptist Church in Clear Lake City, Tex., was the preacher for the week, and Bill Cox of the Broadman division at the Sunday School Board led the music.

Adult leaders were the largest group to attend the conference, followed by general officers and workers with youth, children, preschool and children. Eight persons attended the conference for workers with the mentally retarded, while 16 were in the bus outreach conference. A total of 10 associational Sunday School leaders were included in the general officers conferences.

Ammons Called To Lincoln County

The Rev. Bob Ammons has accepted the pastorate of Arlington Church, Bogue Chitto, in Lincoln County. He, his wife, June, and 3 children, Randy, Robin, and Roger have moved on the church field.

The Ammons are natives of Oklahoma. He has held pastorates in several Mississippi associations.

On November 21 Arlington celebrated Thanksgiving in a special way, holding an "Old Fashioned Sunday."

The people dressed in old-fashioned clothes. After lunch the program included an "Old Fashioned Singing."

BMC Pays Tribute to 60 Missionaries, All Graduates Of The College

Blue Mountain College paid special tribute to the more than 60 missionaries it has produced during the school's annual Founder's Day program Nov. 5 and heard from one of them who has served in Chile for the past 35 years.

Keynote speaker for the program was Georgia Mae Ogburn, a 1938 graduate of BMC, who was recently awarded the Bernardo O'Higgins decoration from Chile. This is the highest award given to a foreigner by the government and had not been awarded for 7 years prior to the presentation to Miss Ogburn.

Mrs. Jean Lipsey Cotey of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, president of the school's alumnae association, presided at the meeting and told the group, "Miss Ogburn has done some remarkable things in Chile and almost on her own organized the Women's Bible Institute of Santiago which now serves as the Baptist Women's Theological Department of Santiago."

Miss Ogburn has announced she will retire later this month and return home to Mississippi.

"We are delighted to have her back

Wayside (Yalobusha) Gets New Piano

Members of Wayside (Yalobusha) are happy these days because they have a new piano.

When the church called in a piano tuner to tune their old piano, he told them that it was so old it was not worth repairing. The pastor, the Rev. Larry Kilgore, announced from the pulpit that since the church did not have enough money to buy a new piano the finance committee wanted to start a piano fund.

Within ten days they had enough money to buy a new piano, with enough left over to repair the old piano to be used in the fellowship hall. A dedication service will be held soon.

Frank Ruiz Named To Delta Spanish Work

Frank Ruiz has been named by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board to develop Spanish work in the Delta. A native of Calvate, Tex., Ruiz will preach in the Spanish Mission at Shelby, which is a mission of Duncan Baptist Church.

Since 1968, Ruiz has been pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Adrian, Mich. Prior to that he was pastor of Whipple Baptist Mission in Pineville, Ky.

He attended Clear Creek Baptist School in Pineville and Toledo University. He and his wife, Lois Elizabeth Ann, have five children.



Frank Ruiz

REVIVAL RESULTS

Woodland Hills Church, Jackson: November 7-10; Mississippi deaf revival; Rev. Rick Yount, minister to the deaf, First Church, Irving, Texas, evangelist; attendance started at 96 and grew to 126 with an average of 110; students from Mississippi School for the Deaf attended all services; dinner served on the grounds on Sunday; reception given for the evangelist on Wednesday night.



Miss Georgia Mae Ogburn of Meridian receives a cordial welcome from Dr. E. Harold Fisher, President of Blue Mountain College on Founder's Day, during which program she was guest speaker, concerning her missionary work in Chile. She is a member of the BMC Class of 1938.

home to our state and home to Blue Mountain and appreciate having a person of her commitment, dedication and record of service here with us today," said E. Harold Fisher, president of the school.

A number of past presidents of the alumnae association were introduced to the meeting as well as introduction of the school's current executive board for the association.

Northwest Hills Has New Pastor

The Rev. Robert McDonald is the new pastor at Northwest Hills Church, Jackson. He moved there from Raymond Road Church, Jackson, where he had been pastor for two years.

During the time he was at Raymond Road, four buses were bought and a bus ministry started; Sunday School attendance doubled; and 130 were added to the church.

Rev. McDonald was formerly associate pastor of the Ridgeland Church for one and one-half years. He is married to the former Jane Bowen, and they have three children, Mark, 9, Matt, 7, and Marsha, 4. The McDonalds live in Clinton.



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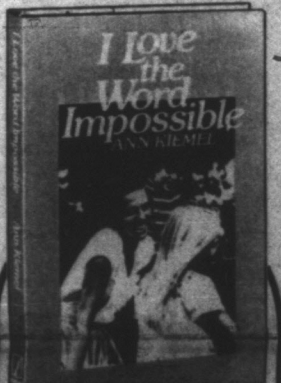
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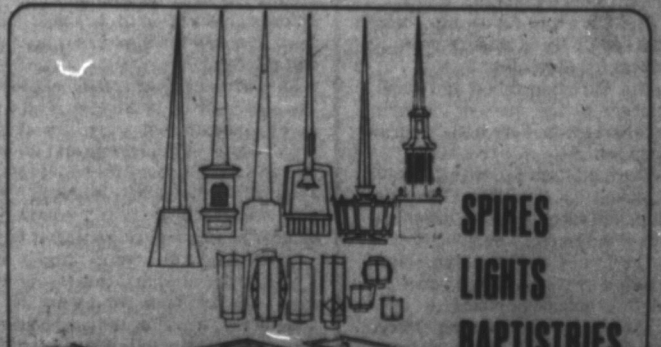
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Gaston Calls Milton Koon

The Rev. Milton Koon has assumed the duties as pastor of the Gaston Church in Booneville. He moved from Mt. Nebo Church in Roseland, Louisiana, where he was pastor two and one-half years while in seminary at New Orleans.

Rev. Milton is a native of Booneville. He is married to Joan Knighton Koon of Myrtle. He has two children, David, 6, and Denise, 22 months.

He completed his seminary work in October of this year and will receive his Master of Divinity degree on December 17, from New Orleans Seminary.



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SCRAPBOOK



The Harvest Is In

Summer's period of growth is over and the harvest of fall is in. A weathered crib is full of corn. (RNS Photo by Vernon Sigl)

In the autumn when the flowers faded,
Late-clinging leaves of all the trees
Stood forth majestic in vari-colored bouquets
Along the black-topped road.
Each tree flaunted its own brilliant, rustic splendor.
And many campers trailed with wooden grace
Homeward, back to old sources
For a pilgrim holiday of feast and rest.

The people searched hungrily for roots, for an old church,
For a preacher, for religion that a child knew best.
Suddenly the old people and the children communicated
And memory ran deep like faith.
The wayward man appreciated his sweet wife the Lord had given.
The sinner bowed before God.
The wild person was impressed with old values.
And prayers of contrition were felt in the yard.

Angels rejoiced at the people's return.
Jesus said, "Peace, be still. The very ground is holy to receive you."
And in that day it was He who said, "Thank you. Thank you, my own."
It was He, the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory.
Jesus blessed his people and comforted them and strengthened them.
And all the people were glad like Nature that they had returned to Him.
They looked, and even the ancient Pear tree was a brilliant gold.
The Maple was yellow, the Sweet Gum red, the huge Oak burnished lace.
The Sun was a gaudy flame—all warm shades doting the gathering crowd.
—By Violet Tackett

Thanksgiving

Mocking Bird At Night

There're many signs that autumn's here:
Wild geese, the shortening of the days,
The cool crisp air, the turning leaves
That set the hillside ablaze

The one I like the best of all
Is when I hear a song at night—
A solo of a mocking bird
When clouded moon is barred from light.

She reminds me that God in love,
Amid our storms and fiery darts
Will give a song in moonless nights.
To cheer and soothe our aching hearts.

—Victoria Singley

Repentance

Peter's tears could not undo
his callous crime of treachery;
but with them came the winds that blew
a breeze of love and penitence.

—Hafford Berry

A Day Of Thanksgiving

For love of country, heritage sacred;
For love of nations, ceasing all strife;
For love of mankind, cancelling hatred;
We pray, Eternal God, grateful for life.

For beauty and color that ladens Fall;
For our children, loved ones, friends and homes;
For blessings, unjustly deserved by all;
We thank Thee Lord, these granted belong.

Our jealousies and resentments, Oh Lord,
Replace with kindness, forgiveness, love,
And may gratitude fill each heart anew
In Thanksgiving to Thee above.

—Sarah Peugh

We Thank Thee

For flowers that bloom about our feet
For tender grass so fresh so sweet
For song of birds and hum of bees
For all things fair we hear or see
Father in Heaven, we thank thee
For blue of stream and blue of sky
For pleasant shades of branches high
For fragrant air and cooling breeze
For beauty of the blooming trees
Father in Heaven, we thank thee

—Mrs. D. O. Mooney, Sr.

My Strength

By Evie Landrum Goodrich

For many years I have claimed
Philippines 4:13 as one of my favorite
Bible verses — "I can do all things
through Christ which strengtheneth
me."

For six years and two summers I
was state WMU field worker. I had just
completed the WMU Training School
in Louisville, Ky. when I was asked to
do this.

Not ever having done this type of
work I was very fearful of what the
outcome would be, but after much
thought, work, and prayer, I started
my journey one summer morning. The
first assignment was in southeast Mis-
sissippi. I was asked to teach the WMU
methods book and to help with the
young people's work.

It seemed that as I was making the
trip that the wheels on the train would
say, "I can do all things through Christ
which strengtheneth me." When I
reached my destination I was met by
several of the members of the organi-
zation and I soon felt their earnestness
and determination to learn. All the
members met every night for the
class. I went to give a blessing, but I
feel sure that I received the greatest
one.

"Trust in the Lord and you shall
have the desires of your heart."

God makes a promise. Faith be-
lieves it. Hope anticipates it. Patience
quietly awaits it.

He who walks circumspectly by day
need not fear the rap on the door at
midnight.

Gunnison Calls Shelby Pastor

The Rev. S. W. Davis, Jr., pastor,
Bellevue Church, Shelby has re-
signed, to accept a call to Gunnison
Church.

Rev. and Mrs. Davis and their son,
Paul, have lived in Shelby three years.
During his ministry, he organized a
group of Senior Citizens known as
Keenteens, and was given the Man of
the Year award by the City of Shelby,
and a plaque of appreciation from Bel-
levue church officers and members.
He has received nomination for mem-
bership in Who's Who of American
Ministers.

Paul, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Davis,
is a student at Presbyterian Day
School, Cleveland, and a piano and
organ student of Mrs. Trustin Hicks,
Shelby. He has appeared in church
services as organist and soloist.

The Davis family moved to Shelby
from Jericho Church.



New Colorado Editor

Larry R. Jerden, 32, associate editor
of World Mission Journal published by
the Brotherhood Commission, has
been elected editor of the Rocky Moun-
tain Baptist and public relations direc-
tor of the Colorado Baptist General
Convention. Jerden, former assistant
editor of the Baptist Standard in
Texas, succeeds O. L. Bayless who re-
tires Feb. 28. (BP Photo)

Revival Dates

First Church, Brooklyn: November
28 - December 1; Rev. Ken Shoemaker,
pastor; Rev. Bill Mitchell, pastor of
Rawis Springs Church, Hattiesburg,
evangelist.

Devotional

The Effective Christian

By Sherman Barnette, Pastor, Friendship, Grenada
Acts 6:1-3

As we consider these verses, we are aware that they deal with the selection
of the first deacons. There are three characteristics that we can glean from verse
three that can be applied to every believer.

First, these men were to be men of "honest report." If we
are going to be effective as Christians, it is imperative that we
live lives that are above reproach. Talk is cheap. We can
spend much time telling others how to live, but if we do not
show them, our efforts are futile. It is easy to tell people how to
live, how to react to problems and temptations on Sunday, but
it is something else to show them. We Christians must live
what we profess, if we ever expect to be effective in our Chris-
tian lives. To say one thing on Sunday and live something else
Monday through Saturday is nothing less than hypocrisy.

Secondly, they were full of the Holy Ghost. There is much
talk today about being baptized by the Holy Ghost. We also hear much about
being filled with the Spirit. The Bible says in I Corinthians 12:13 that we are
baptized by the Spirit when we are saved. So, being baptized by the Spirit
happens only one time in the life of a believer.

This verse in Acts says they were "full of the holy ghost." Ephesians 5:18 tells
us to "be filled with the Spirit." This is a command for every believer. It simply
means that we as believers are to allow the Holy Spirit to continually control our
lives. We can be filled with the Spirit more than one time. Being filled is a matter
of allowing the Holy Spirit to take over our lives. It is allowing Him to live in and
through us.

Thirdly, they were full of wisdom. In this particular verse this wisdom is
probably a type of practical wisdom. This practical wisdom was needed to deal
with the discrimination that had occurred in the church. Proverbs tells us that
the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. When we reverence the Lord and
recognize Him as God, He will give us this kind of practical wisdom to deal with
different circumstances as we live the Christian life.

Sunday School Lesson: International For November 28

Our Ministry Of Reconciliation

By Wm. J. Falls
Romans 1:16; 15:7-13

With this lesson we conclude a three-
month study of a great Christian truth
or principle. Using passages from two



of Paul's letters —
Galatians and Ro-
mans — we have
been talking about
the healing of
human relation-
ships. Pride and
selfishness eventu-
ally alienate all
people. Basically
they resent God; so
the primary change needed in rela-
tionships is between persons and God.
They need to be reconciled with Him,
and he has made it possible through
Jesus. Then these persons need to be
reconciled with one another, and Jesus
accomplishes that through the Holy
Spirit. It does not happen automati-
cally; persons must give up their pride
and open their lives to change by the
Spirit. God expects the reconciled to

help others in that direction.

The Lesson Explained
Christ's Gospel For All Men
(Rom. 1:16; 15:7-13)

One of the greatest affirmations of
faith in the whole Bible is Romans
1:16. Paul had preached Christ in
Jewish synagogues and to the
Arenopagus in Athens. He had been re-
jected by Jews and imprisoned by
Gentiles. He had given up his role as an
orthodox rabbi to become a mission-
ary for Christ. No matter what the
world might say, he was "not ashamed
of the gospel of Christ." God was work-
ing in it to save all who believed, both
Jew and Greek.

In 15:8-9 he picked up the theme of
that last phrase. The word "circumci-
sion" refers to the Jews, and that verse
means that Jesus came to fulfill God's
promises to the patriarchs. His saving
work also caused Gentiles to praise
God for his grace. Lest some of his
readers still not understand God's et-
ernal purpose as including the people
of other nations, Paul quoted four ver-

ses from his Bible: Psalm 18:49 (verse
9), Deuteronomy 32:43 (v. 10), Psalm
117:1 (v. 11), and Isaiah 11:1 (v. 12).
While the church in Rome consisted of
both Jews and Gentiles, it obviously
was more Gentile than Jewish. Paul's
benediction included them all, praying
for joy and peace through their faith,
and overflowing hope through the
Spirit.

Paul: Minister To Gentiles
(15:14-17)

Although Paul had never ministered
to the church in Rome, he knew that its
faith was "spoken of throughout the
whole world" (1:8). In 15:14 he was
convinced that the members were full
of goodness and knowledge and were
"able to teach one another" (TEV).
His boldness in writing had been in-
tended only to remind them of what
they already knew. He felt free to do
that because God had commissioned
him to declare the message of Christ to
Gentiles. In verse 16 "ministering"
means "to serve as a priest" (TEV) in
sharing the gospel so that the Gentiles

would be an acceptable offering to
God, set apart by the Holy Spirit. Paul
was justifiably proud of what God had
accomplished through him in union
with Christ Jesus.

Paul: Pioneer Of The Faith
(15:18-21)

Verse 18 seems to be saying, "I am
speaking only of those things which
Christ did through me to lead the Gen-
tiles to become obedient to God." The
Spirit had empowered him to speak, to
act, and to perform miracles. These he
had done in proclaiming the gospel all
the way from Jerusalem to an area
northwest of Macedonia. It was his
ambition always "to proclaim the
Good News in places where Christ had
not been heard of" (TEV). Then he
quoted Isaiah 52:15 as a prophetic en-
dorsement of his desire to be a pioneer.
In verse 19 "fully preached" could not
mean that he had spoken to every per-
son or in every town, but it probably
means he had witnessed in key com-
munities in all the countries.

In Romans 12:9-16, we see Paul's
exhortation to the practical ministry
of the church. Read these verses in 9-13
and see if you can find the twelve rules
for living.

The Marks of the Fellowship
Romans 15:1-7

This passage gives us a wonderful
summary of the marks which should
characterize the Christian fellowship.
They deal with the duties of those
within the Christian fellowship to one
another and especially the duty of the
stronger to the weaker.

1. The Christian fellowship should
be marked by the consideration of its
members for each other.

2. The Christian fellowship should
be marked by the study of the scrip-
tures whereby the Christian can draw
encouragement.

3. The Christian fellowship should
be marked by fortitude that gives
triumphant adequacy with which one
can cope with life.

4. The Christian fellowship should
be marked by hope in God's power for
strength to endure anything.

5. The Christian fellowship should
be marked by harmony in order to
solve the problems of living together.

6. The Christian fellowship should
be marked by praise.

Our Christian fellowship should take
its pattern and example from Jesus
Christ. He did not seek to please Him-
self.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For November 28

Belonging To One Another

Acts 4:32-37; Romans 12:9-16; 15:1-7
By Bill Duncan

What is a fellowship? As a young
person I thought fellowship was a
party after church on Sunday night



where they were
going to serve re-
freshments. I al-
ways wanted to go
for the refresh-
ments. The term
"fellowship" was
always associated
with church. We
never talked about
fellowship at school
or at home. It was a church term that
had little meaning.

When I began to study the Bible, I
discovered that fellowship was not
something you went to but something
you could experience anywhere. The
first reference to fellowship in the
early church was given by Luke in
Acts 2:42-47. At the risk of being re-
dundant, Luke describes what was the
happy fellowship. They were together
and had all things in common. They
sold their possessions and goods and
distributed them to all as they had

need. Day by day they were attending
the temple together. Breaking bread
in their homes, they partook of food
with glad and generous hearts. This
oneness of those in Christ became
known as "Koinonia" which is trans-
lated in English fellowship as com-
munity.

The Meaning of the Fellowship
Acts 4:32-37

These early disciples were not a
mere society of co-operating people
but a community in the deepest sense.
A society may be formed by people
who neither know nor care for one
another, but who find themselves with
a common purpose. In the early
church all their shared activities had
meaning only in that they expressed
this common life which they had in
Christ. Jesus Christ has called us into a
fellowship in which we are privileged
to live a common and creative life with
Him and with His people. The fellow-
ship among men is derived from a fel-
lowship with God.

The believers are pictured in Acts
4:32-37 as a unity in which they had
everything in common. This came
about because of several things. (1)

These early Christians recognized that
all believers are one people. (2) They
recognized that a believer has no
"rights". (3) They recognized that
each should give the other access to
what he possessed as it was needed.

The evidence of the fellowship was
shown in the sharing with the needy.
The sharing was voluntary in that the
believers made available to the be-
lievers only as they needed. This
movement was not communistic, for
private ownership of property con-
tinued. The sharing was designed only
to meet community needs, not to
equalize the believers economically.

Joseph, called Barnabas, was a good
example of early Christianity. His ac-
tion in selling a field and placing the
proceeds at the disposal of the apostles
is cited as fellowship at its best. His
disposition was to help and that won
for him the name "Son of encourage-
ment."

The "common life" is called by Paul
in Romans 12 "the body of Christ." The
picture of the ideal church is the body
of Christ. Christ is the head and the
church is the body with many mem-
bers.



Our Church . . .

. . . And The Cooperative Program

By Macklyn Hubbell, Pastor,
First, Cleveland

"Thank you" can be the most mean-
ingful as well as the most meaningless
expression in the English language. It
is meaningful when a delectable meal
of Louisiana Bayou origin has been
served or when an expanding abomi-
nial rural meal has been served in the
knobs of Kentucky or in rural Missis-
sippi. A guest says to a host with
genuine feeling, "Thank you."

At the same time it is a meaningless
expression when missionaries say to
the American Airlines personnel, "Thank
you for our tickets to Bangkok," or when a Baptist hospital
administrator says to Mississippi

Power & Light Company, "Thank you
for our electricity to operate our
facilities this month;" or when the
dietician at the Baptist Children's Vil-
lage says to the local grocer, "Thank
you for our groceries this month."

Because our church, First Baptist
Church of Cleveland, recognizes that it
costs to share the gospel, we feel that
at least 25% of our operating budget
should go toward paying costs here
and there in the world. We want people
to know of Christ's love; therefore we
feel that this percentage is minimal for
our congregation.

First Baptist Church, Cleveland,
gave \$39.40 per member to date through
the Cooperative Program for a total of
\$35,150.99 as of September 27.

The Road Home

By Ruby Buckley

I had been down that road many times. There were the yearly trips to the
dentist as a child in far-off Jackson, Mississippi. The rare shopping trips to the
big city. The trips home from college. And more recently the visits
home from wherever my husband and I were living at the time. Highway 18
from Brandon to Cato has always been a pretty drive, but that morning
was different.

The snowy frost accented the splendor of color that burst from the trees.
The sun came up to brighten it all with breathtaking beauty. Every leaf,
every sunbeam, every sparkling frost-flake seemed to be alive with God.
As I drove on to Jackson, and sat looking out the sixth floor window of a
doctor's waiting room, the beauty of the scenery again was alive with God.
I saw Him in the rolling clouds, the sparrows that flew about the parking lot
wall, the colorful trees in the distance, even in the wheels that went in an
endless procession on the streets below.

Everything was saying, "God loves you! God loves His world."
Maybe this is what Jesus meant when He said, "I will make all things
new." It's the same, yet it's not the same.

We are all traveling the road home somewhere. So many times as we go
we are thinking of bills instead of blessings, pain and problems instead of
peace and grace, wants instead of worship of Him.

Paul wrote something to the Christians in Thessalonica that expresses it
so beautifully, "May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God" (2
Thess. 3:5).

On all of our roads home let's ask Him to "direct our hearts into the love
of God."

Plains Church Ends "Closed Door" Policy

By Robert LaFavre
PLAINS, Ga. (BP)—"There are no more closed doors at this church," said Hugh Carter, as he stood on the front steps of Plains Baptist Church following an almost three hour church conference.

Carter, deacon and church clerk, was announcing results of an agonizing decision of the church membership that both upheld the cherished Baptist tradition of congregational authority and ended racial discrimination.

Along with his announcement of the new open-door policy at the small south Georgia church, he reported the congregation action to retain the services of its pastor, Bruce E. Edwards, despite a vote by its deacons to ask for his resignation.

Hugh Carter, a Georgia state senator, church choirist, and cousin to President-elect Jimmy Carter, told also of another action of the church establishing a "watchcare" committee. The committee, which will be elected by the church, will "investigate persons who apply for membership at Plains Baptist Church and make recommendations to the church as to whether or not to accept that person," he said. He noted that race will not be a factor in the recommendation.

He made these revelations amid the glare of television spotlights and popping strobes, mixed with the clicks of cameras. They followed a confrontation which began two weeks before

when a non-denominational black minister from Albany, about 45 miles from Plains, said he wanted to seek membership in the church.

Clennon King's first encounter at the Plains church came two days before the presidential election, in which Jimmy Carter, a member and currently an inactive deacon at the church, won his race against Gerald Ford.

While King had set up the situation with the release to the press of a letter of his intent, almost before the pastor of the church received it, he denied any political motives. He had refused a request by Edwards that he delay his appearance until after the election.

But because Edwards expressed strong opposition to a 1965 church resolution which barred "Negroes and other civil rights demonstrators" from services at the Plains church, the deacons unanimously voted to ask him to resign.

Edwards called for the full church to vote on the matter, pointing out that a Baptist church is under authority of the congregation, not its deacons. Those events set the stage for the dramatic action on Sunday, Nov. 14.

Hugh Carter, speaking on behalf of the church at its request, said, "We worked it out among ourselves."

Edwards, speaking from the same rainy and cold steps as Hugh Carter, noted: "Our church had a family problem."

(Continued on page 2)

Hospital Patient Load Up Despite Bombing Attempt

BUKITTINGGI, Indonesia (BP)—The patient load of the new Baptist hospital here has increased despite a recent widely publicized bombing attempt at the hospital.

"The number of people coming to the clinic (the only part of the hospital open so far) has increased rather than decreased since this was in the newspapers," said Dr. Winfield Applewhite, Southern Baptist missionary serving at the Immanuel Hospital. The homemade bomb was placed in a hospital lavatory on Oct. 10.

In fact, the only things that have come out of the bomb incident have been good, adds his wife, Laverne Applewhite. "The articles that have been in the paper and the fact that one of the military men himself (a Moslem major) was quoted in the newspaper as saying, 'The Lord was watching over this place, and this bomb was not

allowed to go off,' was the best testimony that we could possibly have had in this area," she said.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's secretary for Southeast Asia, William R. Wakefield, and Travis S. Berry, chairman of the board's Southeast Asia committee, were visiting Indonesia when the bomb was found.

Wakefield agreed with the Applewhites about the result of the bombing attempt. "The outcome has been one of bringing praise to the name of the Lord on the part of the local community that this nasty incident did not take place here."

He said the hospital staff believes that the incident will not only increase awareness of the hospital and its purposes but will also cause people to marvel that the bomb did not go off and to believe "the hand of God prevented it."

The opening of a Baptist hospital here has faced strong opposition since initial attempts were made in 1962. Permits to buy land for a Christian hospital, build it and operate it, have repeatedly been blocked, according to William N. McElrath, Southern Baptist missionary press representative. The outpatient clinic finally opened on Dec. 1, 1975.

The homemade time bomb was placed in the hospital in a package of fruit and cans of cookies, but the bulky package was not inspected until the fruit began to rot. Copper wire was supposed to make the contact between the 34 sticks of TNT and a watch set at 1 p.m. However, the bomb did not work because the copper wire was insulated and did not detonate, according to Wakefield.

Two hospital employees saw the man bring the plastic bag into the hospital but have not been able to identify a suspect yet.

In the aftermath of the incident, Wakefield said, "there is a very real sense of peace and lack of anxiety over the situation."

But, at the same time, "There is an awareness that even though it was a miracle of God that the bomb did not go off, they (hospital employees) are not presuming upon the grace of God." They are taking precautions to protect the hospital in case of future incidents.

However, Applewhite said he thought the incident was a "one-shot deal" to demonstrate a point related to a local situation.

Southern Baptist missionaries assigned to Immanuel Hospital are the Applewhites, R. Everley Hayes and Dr. Kathleen C. Jones, who is currently on furlough.

Carter Taps Cooper For Advisory Role

A prominent Mississippi Baptist has been asked by President-elect Jimmy Carter to serve on an advisory committee of 11 persons.

Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, a retired industrialist, told the Baptist Record that he did not know a great deal about the role the committee is to play. The indications are that it will be used in advising Carter on potential governmental leaders.

Cooper has retired as president of Mississippi Chemical Corporation. In 1972 in Philadelphia he was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention and re-elected to the post in 1973 in Portland, Ore.

Other persons on the presidential advisory committee will be Robert Strauss, chairman of the Democratic National Committee; Theodore M. Hesburgh, president of Notre Dame University; Lane Kirkland, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO; Vernon Jordan, executive director of the Urban League; Mrs. Marion Edelman, executive director of the Children's Defense Fund; Hank La Coys, chairman of the Hispanic division of the Carter-Mondale campaign; Irving Shapiro, chairman of the E. I. DuPont de Nemours Company; and Patricia Robert Harris, Washington attorney and chairperson of the 1972 National Democratic Convention.

Human Relations Workshops Scheduled Early January

Four conferences on human relations will be held in early January 1977 according to a joint announcement by Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and J. Clark Hensley, executive director, Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention. The conferences will be jointly sponsored by two board departments, Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists and Cooperative Missions, and by the Christian Action Commission. The board department directors are Richard Brogan and Foy Rogers.

Phil Strickland, Associate, Texas Christian Life Commission, Dallas, Texas will be the out-of-state program resource person.

The dates and places are: January 10—Hattiesburg, William Carey College; January 11—Gulfport, MI.

Bethel Baptist Church; January 13—Starkville, First Baptist Church; January 14—Greenville, First Baptist Church. The session times are 10-12 a.m. and 7-9 p.m.

In the afternoon Christian action committees from the regions will meet with Hensley for orientation on strategies to meet community needs. Concurrently, Brogan will be meeting with associational committees and persons interested in black/white relations. Rodney Webb will represent the cooperative missions department in an emphasis upon ministry to ethnic groups.

Under the theme "Let the Church Stand Up," pastors, staff members, church council, associational committee members and other interested persons will grapple with better awareness and communication in mutual concerns.

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Hit Sponsors In Their Billfolds To Clean Up TV, Says Ad Exec

By Toby Druin
ARLINGTON, Tex. (BP)—The surest way to rid television programming of excessive violence and sex is to hit the sponsors of offensive shows "in their billfolds — you can't get closer to their hearts."

That observation, put forth by an advertising agency executive, represented a consensus of methods offered at a public hearing here on television and morality.

The hearing at First Baptist Church, Arlington, Tex., a Dallas-Fort Worth suburb, was the first of four to be conducted across the U. S. by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). Others are scheduled in Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 8, at the Alabama state Baptist headquarters; Richmond, Va., in early January; and San Francisco in early February.

Foy Valentine of Nashville, executive secretary of the SBC's Christian social concerns agency, said testimony at the hearings will be compiled and presented to network executives and officials of federal regulatory agencies. The commission also will use the testimony in preparing plans of action to suggest to Southern Baptist churches.

Fifteen persons, including a housewife, a psychologist, a domestic relations court judge, a pastor, a seminary professor, a director of a children's home, a journalist, and representatives of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth testified at the first hearing in Arlington. Statements were also read for one television station executive and another pastor who could not attend.

They offered a variety of opinions about programming and how to combat objectionable excesses, from simply turning off the set to complaining to federal regulatory agencies. But most singled out making it unprofitable for the sponsors as the best tactic.

William Hill, who directs production of commercials for the Bloom Agency in Dallas, told Valentine and the commission's Harry N. Hollis Jr. and C. Welton Gaddy who conducted the hearing, that companies which sponsor

network television shows are "extremely sensitive" to public opinion.

"The networks and sponsors live and die on audience," he said. "If the ratings are there the programs remain."

The way to influence the networks and sponsors to clean up the shows is to select individual programs and let the network and sponsor know they are offensive.

"Hit them in the billfold; you can't get any closer to their hearts," he said. He suggested that concerned persons also appeal to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) which regulates content of commercials.

Persons testifying at the hearing singled out several programs as being particularly offensive. "Starsky and Hutch," "The Streets of San Francisco," "Baretta," "Police Women," "Police Story," and "The Rookies" were cited as violence-prone.

Sex and profanity were also hit. "I am concerned about the subtle

way sexual values are being interjected into many so-called family shows," said Mrs. Gayle Taylor, a Dallas housewife.

She cited "The Tony Randall Show," "The Nancy Walker Show," and recent episodes of "Happy Days" as objectionable.

"I believe that if my children see enough pre-marital and extra-marital affairs on television, like with violence, they will come to accept this as beneficial behavior," Mrs. Taylor said. "Casual sex is so often treated as exciting, fulfilling and fun. Never is anything ever said of the hurt and suffering that inevitably comes not only to individuals but to families when sex is treated in such a loose and negligent manner."

Mrs. Taylor said she was concerned about an increasing use of profanity on "family shows" such as "Mary Tyler Moore" and "The Bob Newhart Show."

Forrest Smith, Dallas attorney,

father of five and former chairman of the Texas Youth Council, said he was concerned that the effect of television on both children and adults had become so "deleterious" as to constitute a "clear and present danger to our society."

Smith said the major reason for the problem, however, is "because the adult audience is on a violence trip of its own, either at the movies or on television."

"Americans have, throughout history, been violence-prone and love to watch violence," Smith said. "Capitalizing on this trait, the commercial advertisers have seen violence as an epoxy for holding the audience together between commercials."

The only real answer, he said, may have to come from the President, who appoints members of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

"We, as Christians, ought to speak directly to Plains, Ga., about it," Smith admonished. "I think he (President-elect Jimmy Carter) ought to say 'shape up or ship out.'"

Price Pritchett, Dallas psychologist, said the networks should act more responsibly.

"The media," he said, "seems all too willing to blithely transmit scenes of pathological violence and decadent sexual behavior into our homes, and into the very lives of adults and particularly impressionable children."

Pritchett said he felt it was "hypocritical" of the television media to have spent countless hours of air time to expose legal and ethical violations of Watergate while breaching ethical behavior themselves by seducing the American people with violence and sex.

"If our top government officials must stand accused of selling out their ethics and their morality for power,"

(Continued on page 2)

High Court Accepts Second Sabbath Case

By Stan Hasty
WASHINGTON (BP)—The U. S. Supreme Court announced here it will decide after all whether employers must make special arrangements to accommodate the religious views of sabbatarians regarding working on Saturdays.

Just two weeks earlier, the high court, in a 4-4 tie vote, affirmed a lower court ruling which held that employers must make such concessions. The action, however, failed to establish a firm precedent for similar cases.

A 1972 amendment to the Civil Rights Act stipulates that employers must not dismiss or refuse to hire any individual for religious reasons, including anyone whose religion requires strict observance of the Sabbath. The amendment was introduced by U. S. Sen. Jennings Randolph (D-W.

Va.), a Seventh Day Baptist.

Ever since passage of the amendment, the courts have been besieged with claims of discrimination against sabbatarians.

The new case the high court agreed to hear involves an employee of Trans World Airlines at Kansas City International Airport. Larry G. Hardison, a mechanic, joined the World Wide Church of God in 1968, more than a year after going to work for TWA.

Hardison, who also belonged to the International Association of

(Continued on page 2)

New England Aims At State Convention Status

MIDDLETOWN, R. I. (BP)—In moves aimed at gaining status as a Southern Baptist state convention by 1981, the Baptist General Association of New England, in its ninth annual meeting here, adopted a new constitution with more provision for growth, and accepted the report of a long range planning committee.

The association, which covers six New England states and is currently under the sponsorship of the Maryland Baptist Convention, elected Robert Brindle, pastor of the South Burlington (Vt.) Baptist Church, as president. Brindle chaired the committee which wrote the new constitution.

In other action, the body also approved a total 1977 budget of \$156,176, including a goal of \$104,000 in receipts from New England churches through the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget. Twenty percent of the association's Cooperative Program goal will go to worldwide mission causes of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

Besides the 1981 target date for convention status, goals included construction of new office facilities for the association (now underway in Northboro, Mass., with a Jan. 1, 1977, target date, receipts of 10 percent from all member churches through the Cooperative Program, acquisition of assembly facilities, and participation in the SBC's Bold Mission Thrust which would evangelize and congregationalize the nation by 1980.

Other goals include increasing association staff as funds are available, increasing the number of pastors in the association, and increasing communications efforts.

A group of Baptists may start a state convention whenever it wishes, but, under guidelines from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, a convention must meet several requirements to receive financial assistance in launching itself.

It must have either 70 churches with 10,000 members or 30 churches with 12,500 members. The New England Association, at the end of 1975, had 44 constituted churches, 15 chapels and 6,931 members.

Its churches must establish a fund with which to begin a state convention and give an average of 10 percent of their receipts to the Cooperative Program. New England is working on these goals.

It must have a record of five years of cooperative relationships with Southern Baptists and two years of a relationship of churches in a regional fellowship sponsored by the state convention with which it is affiliated. New England has accomplished these two requirements.

(Continued on page 5)

Liquor Down, Pornography Next On Oklahoma Baptists' Agenda

OKLAHOMA CITY—Messengers to the annual meeting of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma appear to be gearing up for a fight to rid the state of pornographic literature following their recent success in defeating a liquor-by-the-drink amendment to the state constitution.

Three of the four resolutions passed in their annual convention here dealt with moral issues, and the convention's Christian Life Committee also received attention in a motion calling for it to be empowered and funded to lead out in a fight against pornography.

Richard Douglas, pastor of Putnam City Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, and a former missionary to Brazil, became the second consecutive Oklahoma City pastor to be elected convention president. He succeeds Charles Graves, pastor of Nichols Hills Baptist Church.

The messengers also approved a \$6.75 million objective for the 1977 Cooperative Program unified budget, with 42 percent of that amount going to worldwide Southern Baptist Convention causes.

The convention also passed a resolution urging individual Christians to unite at every level against the portrayal of violence, vulgarity, sadism, and sex on television and in movies.

A second resolution spoke against pornography and called on associations of churches, churches, pastors and members to use every means at their disposal to fight pornographic literature.

One Oklahoma City pastor, Raymond Perkins of Western Hill Baptist Church, offered an amendment which he said would result in the convention doing more than just resolving about the situation.

"Born Again" Defined For Daily Paper

Jackson Daily News reporter Bill Flanagan, interviews six Mississippi Baptist pastors for a newspaper story on what it means to be born again. The pastors were: John Traylor, Mel Craft, Clark McMurray, Robert Hamblin, Kermit McGregor, and Benton Preston. The article was printed in the Nov. 20 issue of the paper.

He called for the state convention to establish some procedure for "direct action against smut." He later agreed to a change in wording of his amendment to ask the executive director-treasurer, Joe L. Ingram, and the Christian Life Committee to find ways to fight actively against pornography. The resolution was passed with the amendment.

Two other resolutions expressed appreciation for the convention host and commended the convention leaders for their leadership in a recent defeat of the move to bring liquor-by-the-drink to Oklahoma. The statement also put the messengers on record as desiring that present state laws be strengthened and clarified to eliminate totally the sale and use of liquor in Oklahoma.

The constitutional amendment that would have allowed liquor-by-the-drink in this state went down to defeat, the second time in four years.

Oklahoma allows package stores, where liquor may be purchased by the bottle. "Key clubs"—potentially for members only to keep their own bottles on the premises—are also prevalent.

Baptists spearheaded opposition to the liquor-by-the-drink measure that was approved by voters in only six of the state's 77 counties.

Complicated legal maneuvering between the "wets" and the "dries" marked the campaign. "Dries" had set up Sooner Alcohol, Narcotics Education, Inc. (SANE) to present their case. "Wets" succeeded in obtaining a state injunction preventing SANE from functioning on the grounds that state law prevents corporations from campaigning on state questions.

Churches then set up an unincorporated group—the Social Betterment

Council—to carry their message. "Wets" again went to court to keep churches—incorporated—from making contributions. Donations were limited to individuals from the sponsoring churches, but the court denied a move to prevent pastors from speaking out on the liquor question because they were agents of corporations. (BP AND RNS)

Penn-Jersey Urges Obscenity Action

CARLEISLE, Pa. (BP)—The Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania - South Jersey, in annual session here, pledged prayer support for President-elect Jimmy Carter and his administration and urged the Pennsylvania legislature to pass laws authorizing local government to control obscene material.

The convention re-elected Calvin Bailey, pastor of Pittsburgh (Pa.) Baptist Church, as president, and named a black Baptist preacher, Archie Washington of Third Baptist Church, Germantown, Pa., to preach the convention sermon at last year's convention, Nov. 4-5 in Conyngham, Pa.

In other action, elected messengers to the convention approved a total budget of \$987,531, including a \$225,000 goal for Cooperative Program unified budget receipts from its churches. Twenty six percent of the Cooperative Program receipts will go to worldwide causes of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

In the resolution on obscenity, the convention urged the legislature to act in keeping with U. S. Supreme Court action on local control of obscene materials.

High Court Accepts Second Sabbath Case

(Continued from page 1)

Machinists and Aerospace Workers, worked out an agreement with his supervisors and his union's steward allowing him to be off from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday, the time his church required him to observe the Sabbath.

The agreement held until Hardison, who had recently been married, took advantage of his seniority privileges by choosing to work a day shift at another TWA building at the airport. By changing jobs, however, Hardison lost some seniority at the new site. As a result, he was denied the privilege of taking off every Saturday.

After missing three consecutive Saturdays, when he was expected to work, Hardison was fired.

A U. S. district court agreed with TWA, denying that the company had refused to make efforts to accommodate Hardison's religious preferences. Later, however, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the lower court, holding against TWA.

In a written brief submitted to the Supreme Court, lawyers for TWA argued that the 1972 amendment to the Civil Rights act violates the federal constitution by establishing religion. The amendment, they said, has the "direct and immediate effect of advancing religion." In addition, it "patently require(s) pervasive and excessive government entanglement with religion," they stated.

The union, which has sided with TWA in the case, argued in a separate brief that the entire seniority system is undermined by the 1972 amendment in favor of religious factors.

Maryland Lashes TV Programs and Racism

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Baptist Convention of Maryland adopted a strong anti-racism resolution which commends Plains (Ga.) Baptist Church for ending racial discrimination and urged boycotts of both television shows which glorify "crime, violence and perverted sexual values" and products of sponsors of the shows.

Messengers to the 141st annual meeting of the convention also praised the public media for coverage of Southern Baptists during the run of Jimmy Carter, a Southern Baptist deacon, for the presidency, and resolved to pray for and support Carter and other elected officials and urge Christians to participate in the political process.

On the other side, attorneys for Hardison deny TWA's allegation that accommodating their client's religious needs would require "bumping" other employees with more seniority. They claim further that TWA had alternatives which would not have violated the company's collective bargaining agreement with the union while providing for Hardison's needs.

Hardison's primary argument is that Congress was right in passing the 1972 amendment in recognition of the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment. TWA counters by arguing that the law amounts to an unconstitutional establishment of religion.

The case is likely to be settled sometime next spring.

Hit Billfolds To Clean Up TV Says Advertising Executive

(Continued from page 1)

prestige and perhaps money — and certainly they must stand so accused — then let the television industry stand accused of doing much the same thing," said the psychologist.

Truett Myers of the Radio and Television Commission said the threat to the American home through offensive programming "does not lie with the

stations or networks, but largely with the Hollywood producers and packagers" of the programs.

"The final responsibility for morality on TV must rest in the end with the individual and family viewing public," Myers added. "Producers will not produce material and networks and stations will not air it unless there is a

public out there watching."

Myers said he viewed appealing to the FCC for action as "resorting to strong-arm tactics" and a "dodge" for Christians. Some controls are necessary, he said, but he added he didn't know where to "draw the line."

Charles Rhoden, also of the Radio-TV Commission, said the Federal Communications Commission does not have direct control of programming and said the ultimate control is turning off the set — that a program's survival depends on its ratings.

Both Myers and Rhoden downplayed group action such as boycotts against sponsors of offensive shows. Rhoden said that such a "seller's market" exists in television today that often advertising time is sold six months before it is to be aired and the sponsor is merely buying a time slot, often with little knowledge of the show to be sponsored.

Domestic Relations Court Judge Oswin Chrisman of Dallas took a different tack than most. He called abuse of the television medium a "growing, continuing festering social problem" but singled out television news for criticism. The judge said he could not link television directly to the problems dealt with by his court but hit news teams' preoccupation with isolated incidents such as child abuse. Such coverage, he said, "begets" more of the same.

(Druin is associate editor of the TEXAS BAPTIST STANDARD)

Plains Church Changes Policy

(Continued from page 1)

lem. We settled it in a family manner. I'm grateful to the church and proud to be pastor of Plains Baptist Church. I believe that we will pull together and have an effective ministry for Jesus Christ."

When asked if he would stay on as pastor in light of the positive action of the church, Edwards said, "for the time being, yes."

Four distinct actions were taken in the almost three-hour church business meeting that was closed to all but church members. A motion to not consider a recommendation of the deacons to fire the pastor was defeated. Many who later voted in favor of the pastor voted against the first motion so that a clear cut and well defined decision could be reached, a church member said.

A motion then to fire the pastor at once, failed by a vote of 106-87. Then the "watchcare" committee was

created by unanimous action and an open door policy established by a vote of 120-66.

The motion to open the doors to all people wishing to worship regardless of race was made by Jerome Eihredge, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board appointee to the French-speaking African nation of Togo. A member and former deacon chairman at the Plains church, he is in missionary orientation at nearby Pine Mountain.

Although Carter modestly said he had been just another member of the church casting a vote against racial discrimination, insiders say he worked quietly and diligently behind the scenes to bring about reconciliation. But many others, including State Sen. Hugh Carter, made the same kind of effort, observers say.

Hugh Carter, one of the 12 deacons who originally voted to ask Bruce Edwards to resign, summed up the feeling of most of the church's membership when he said, "We all acted too hastily. I know that I am sorry that I had voted to dismiss the pastor myself. I have apologized to the pastor and the church."

Robert LaFavre is associate editor of the Christian Index, Georgia's state Baptist newspaper.

Youth Evangelism Training Meet Set Dec. 27-28

The Youth Evangelism Training Conference, scheduled for Dec. 27 and 28 at Alta Woods Baptist Church in Jackson, will get underway on the first day at 2 p.m., according to Rev. Roy Collum, director of the Department of Evangelism for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The first day's session will conclude at 9:30 p.m. On the second day the program will begin at 9 a.m. and continue on until the conclusion of the conference at 8:30 p.m. There will be a 2½ hour break for lunch and a two hour break for supper.

The conference will be for adult leaders of youth and for young people in grades nine through 12. It will be sponsored by the Evangelism Department.

Lawsons, Sumralls Named By Home Mission Board

Hawaii Baptists Set \$1.5 Million Budget

OAHU, Hawaii (BP) — The Hawaii Baptist Convention, passed a resolution calling on Baptists of Hawaii to pray for President-elect Jimmy Carter and approved a 1977 budget of \$1,588,077.

Raymond Lau, pastor of University Baptist Church, Honolulu, was elected president.

The resolution on Carter took note of the "tremendous task" he is undertaking and pledged prayer support and cooperation to him.

The convention took special note of the Southern Baptist Convention's Bold Mission Thrust emphasis, which seeks to evangelize and congregationalize the nation by 1980.

Ray Villamu, missionary to Samoa, and Samoan High Talking Chief Mago addressed the convention as part of the "bold mission challenge." The convention opened work this year in American Samoa.

In other action, "messengers" to the convention heard reports of continued growth of Hawaiian Baptist churches and approved a mission strategy report which had been in the making for three years.

The 1977 convention will meet on the Island of Kauai, Nov. 9-11.

GRANGER, Utah (BP) — Messengers to the 12th annual meeting of the Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention here adopted a record budget of \$574,022, and approved a motion to send a letter to President-elect Jimmy Carter offering him the convention's prayer support.

Bruce Gardner, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho, who has just completed one year as the convention's vice president, was elected president.

The \$574,022 budget includes a Cooperative Program goal of \$144,886. Twenty percent of the Cooperative Program will go to the Southern Baptist Convention worldwide mission causes.

Christian Social Ministries at the Baptist Center.

The Lawsons served as HMB missionaries from 1962 until 1974. During that time, he was director of the Baptist Center in Louisville and director of CSM in Louisville.

Mrs. Lawson, a native of Lodi, Miss., is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He is a native of Erie, Pa.

Robert and Becky Sumrall of Louisville, Ky., have been appointed missionary associates by the Home Mission Board.

Sumrall, a native of Gulfport, is attending Southern Seminary. He will be working as a student intern in Christian Social Ministries in Louisville.

Mrs. Sumrall, a native of LaGrange, Ga., was graduated from Southern Seminary in 1976 and currently is a social worker at Spring Meadows Children's Home in Middletown, Ky.

Sumrall is a graduate of Mississippi College and has been a day care worker at Highland Community Ministries in Louisville. He also served as a summer missionary in Kenya, and was pastor of churches in Crystal Springs, Pattison, and Forest, Miss.

Mississippi Baptist Bible Conference



Bates



Leavell



Summers



Francisco



Naylor



Mrs. Branham



Rhea

Seven program personalities who will be involved in the 1977 Mississippi Baptist Bible Conference March 28 and 29 at Calvary Baptist Church in Jackson are shown above. Dr. Carl Bates is pastor of First Church, Charlotte, N. C.; Dr. Landrum Leavell is president of New Orleans Seminary; Dr. Ray Summers is a faculty member at Baylor University; Dr. Clyde Francisco is a faculty member at Southern Seminary; Dr. Robert Naylor is president of Southwestern Seminary; Martha Branham is a soloist from Dallas, Texas; and Dr. Claude Rhea is a faculty member at Samford University in Birmingham. The conference will

begin at 2 p.m. on Monday and continue through Tuesday evening. Plans call for 10 conferences on books of the Bible, 10 conferences on biblical characters, and 10 theme conferences. In addition there will be a separate Bible conference on both nights for youths from 12 to 17 years of age. Childcare will be provided for all conference sessions, according to Rev. Bryant Cummings, the conference director. Rev. Cummings is director of the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the sponsoring organization of the conference. Rev. Joe Tuten is pastor of Calvary Church.

Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS) — The U. S. Catholic bishops rejected a proposal asking a dime for every Catholic child receiving a religious education to support educational research and experimentation. But they unanimously approved a statement calling for a new emphasis by the Church on "sound principles and effective programs" to help parents rear and educate their children.

CEDAR RAPIDS (RNS) — Iowa has issued its first liquor license to a high school — a Roman Catholic school which asked a one-day permit for an alumni dance. State law forbids the sale of liquor or beer at public schools, but it does not have a ban on private schools such as St. Regis High School.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark (RNS) — Terminally ill patients themselves, or their closest relative, should make life-or-death decisions on medical care, not physicians, a leading authority on bio-medical ethics said here. The Rev. Bruce Hilton, who heads the National Center for Bioethics at Drew University in Madison, N. J., said the course of treatment to be pursued for patients who are clearly terminally ill is "not a medical question, it's a moral and ethical question."

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (RNS) — The General Secretariat of the Islamic World League has called on Muslims the world over to take a "united stand" against any further showing of a firm on Mohammed, the founder of Islam. The movie, originally entitled, "Mohammed, Messenger of God," was made in 1975, with American actor Anthony Quinn and Greek actress Irene Papas in the starring roles. The film has already been banned in Egypt, where Muslim religious leaders described it as "disparaging the image of the Prophet Mohammed in the eyes of believers."

PRINCETON, N. J. (RNS) — A new Gallup Poll reveals that about 23 percent of American adults are engaged in non-traditional religious movements such as yoga, meditation, and charismatic renewal. Transcendental Meditation (TM) was found to be the most popular, supported by 4 percent of persons surveyed or an estimated 6 million of the general public.

NEW YORK (RNS) — Lutherans have been asked to provide Bibles for German-speaking Lutherans in the USSR under tentative plans which may be worked out by the Council for Religious Affairs in Moscow.



Public Affairs Spokesmen

Pictured are Charles Adams (left), pastor of the Hartford Avenue Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich., new chairman of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, D. C., and James E. Wood, Jr., executive director. Adams represents the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. They held a copy of Report from the Capital, a monthly publication featuring news and analysis of public affairs issues.

Nine Baptist denominations in the United States and Canada maintain an office in Washington, D. C., called the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. Nine persons are on the staff. Religious liberty, church-state relations and public affairs of concern to the churches are on the agenda of this denominational agency.

The address of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs is 200 Maryland Ave., N. E., Washington, D. C. 20002. The phone number is (202) 544-4226.

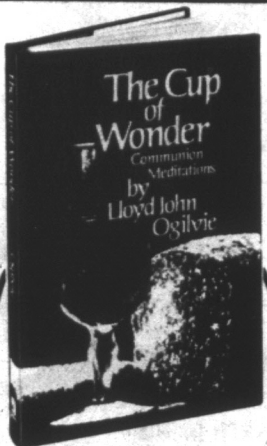


A Triumphant Church For A Troubled World

More random photos of convention activities: George Smith, pastor, Carrollton Church, and Margaret and Bill Patton, pastor, N. Carrollton Church (churches are separated by Big Sand Creek) Hueston Adkins and Joe Odle, record proceedings as Mrs. Frank (Eva) Hart plays piano; Ira Ramey, pastor, FBC, Sanford; Julian Thompson, pastor, Union Church, Seminary; Jamall Badry and James Richardson sing "Where Could I Go?"; Tom Larrimore gives blood as med tech Susan Starnes monitors.



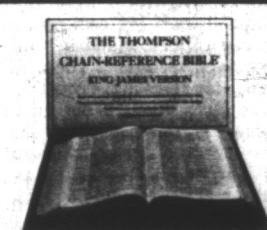
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December BH Sermons To Center On Christmas

"Man's present dissatisfaction with his well-equipped world and shrinking universe is his own best evidence that he can never outlive his need for God and redemption," Frank D. Pollard will tell "Baptist Hour" listeners in December.

Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson, is "Baptist Hour" preacher through December.

"The Baptist Hour" is a modified worship sermon produced and syndicated by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. It is heard on more than 394 radio stations in the United States.

In "Christmas In An Age of Stress," he suggests that people not only put Christ in Christmas but actually "wake up to the fact that Christ is Christmas."

In "He Became Like Us. Why?" Pol-

lard reminds that the real story of Christmas "includes not only the cradle of Bethlehem, but also the cross of Golgotha."

The total Christmas story, and one to be shared, is that Jesus "came for a reason — to save you and me and all the world."

Pollard verbalizes the thoughts Joseph might have had a Jesus' birth in "Meditations Of A Foster Father."

"You can get out of the hole," he tells listeners December 26, reminding, "You and I have fallen into a hole called sin. The thing that convicts us to the core is that God made us to be so much, and we are so little."

WJFR-FM radio station in Jackson broadcasts "The Baptist Hour" Tuesday evenings at 6 o'clock.



Missionaries' Reception

A reception for missionaries was held in the fellowship area of First Baptist Church following the Wednesday evening session of the convention. In the photo above Rev. Benton Preston, right, pastor of Midway Church, Jackson, and chairman of the convention's Committee on Order of Business, and Mrs. Preston, left, visit with Rev. and Mrs. Charles Ray, missionaries to Thailand.



Visiting with missionaries, Dr. Robert Hamblin, pastor of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, and president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, right, shakes hands with Rev. Ed Trott, missionary in residence with the Stewardship Department, as Mrs. Trott looks on. The Trotts serve in Brazil.

Mississippi Churches Find Building Fund Successes

Several Mississippi churches have been engaged in building fund campaigns recently. Testimonies of success will be presented from time to time.

Harrisburg, Tupelo

Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo, recently completed a Church Budget-Building Fund Campaign under the leadership of Pastor Robert L. Hamblin. The membership of Harrisburg over-pledged the \$270,000 budget by \$50,000 for a total of \$320,000. In addition, the church pledged over

\$400,000 to the Building Fund. "I wish every church in Mississippi could have the experience of this campaign. It has been a real blessing to our church," Dr. Hamblin said.

Additional commitments are continuing to come in even though the official canvass has been completed.

Serving with Pastor Hamblin was Mr. Jimmy Mounce, director; C. S. Poole, promotion director; Pete Albright, special gifts director; Cecil Conner, canvass director; Joe Kilgo, report snack director; Sue McAlister, building banquet director; Martha Todd, secretary; and Bill Reaves, follow-up director.



The Harrisburg Church in Tupelo is adding a 15,000-square-foot educational building containing a library, kitchen, fellowship hall seating 400 with a staging area, and a dining conference room seating 50. The building also provides a suite of offices for the church staff and secretaries. Education space is provided for two first grades, one second and one third grade, two fourth grades, and one fifth and one sixth grade. Also included are two four-year departments, and two five-year departments.

Correction: "Young Nigerian. . ."

Two statements in an article in the November 18 issue of the Baptist Record were misleading. The article was titled "Young Nigerian Minister Among Guests at Garywa," and was about Bennett Enyioha.

The statement that reads, "Most of his life he has lived in Owerri in the section known as Biafra" should read "Most of his life he has lived in Owerri in the section known as Imo State." Owerri is in an area that many people in the U.S. associate with the term Biafra, but of course the name Biafra

is no longer used for any area of Nigeria.

The statement, "In Biafra the Baptist schools were taken over by the government," is misleading for the same reason — that there is no Biafra. In Nigeria most private schools have become public schools. They were voluntarily turned over to the government and are supported by the government.

Baptists in Nigeria still operate schools that train Christian leaders. One of them is the pastoral school in Bennett's home town of Owerri.



Christian Action Commission Honors Five

Five persons were honored last week during a dinner meeting of the Christian Action Commission. Dr. Joe T. Odle, at right in the photo above, received a plaque from Dr. J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the commission, as an expression of appreciation for "his editorial support of the commission since its founding." Dr. Odle who recently retired as editor of the BAPTIST RECORD, addressed the meeting and detailed a number of instances throughout the history of the BAPTIST RECORD in which the publication had indicated an interest in social problems. In the photo at right Dr. Hensley, right, awards plaques to three members of the commission who rotated off with this year's Mississippi Baptist Convention. Left to right, they are Rev. J. B. Miller, pastor of First Baptist Church, Carthage; Marvin Graham, layman of Mount Olive; and Rev. Rowe Holcomb, retired minister of Hazlehurst. Dr. W. W. Walley, Waynesboro physician, rotated off the commission but was not in attendance.

"Christmas Sparkles At The Village" To Be Featured In 12th Anniversary Presentation

On Friday and Saturday evenings, December 10 and 11, the Department of Music at The Baptist Children's Village will stage the 12th anniversary production of "Christmas Sparkles at the Village," according to an announcement released by Jan Nix, director of music on the Village staff.

"Christmas Sparkles," a unique choral presentation by the boys and girls at the Village, has become a holiday tradition in Metropolitan Jackson. Audiences approaching 4,000 persons have been reported at the 1972-1975 performances and dozens of communities outside the central Mississippi area have been represented each year.

The Children's Village reports that 1976 performances will include, as usual, combined choirs from the Village's Department of Music, aggregating 130 boys and girls, ranging in age from 5 to 18 years. "The Villagers," a Village choral ensemble, will be featured.

This year's production will be presented at 7:30 p.m., on Friday and Saturday nights, December 10 and 11, at the Village. Activities building on the Jackson campus of the Baptist Children's Village, located on Flag Chapel Drive at West Northside Drive. Program announcements reveal that ap-

proximately one-half of each evening's entertainment will be devoted to sacred music of the season, with the remaining one-half of the program constituting a gala show-popular Christmas tunes, skits and sketches and novelty numbers offered by active Village wards of all ages—all with a holiday flavor. Customarily, billed as a "Choral Christmas Card" of greeting from the Village children to their friends and supporters, no admission is charged, and the general public has been invited to be guests of the Village children for the occasion.

The administration at The Children's Village has announced adequate seating and improved sound provisions and every seat in the build-

ing will be a good one. The announcement emphasized the importance of the 1976 production to Village children. It is the 12th anniversary of what the Village believes to be the most unusual Christmas show in Mississippi.

Music, including choral music, is employed at the Village as an organized full-time department of therapy to the neglected and dependent boys and girls in custodial care. The Baptist Children's Village is the official Mississippi Baptist child care agency, owned and operated by Southern Baptist churches of Mississippi, through Mississippi Baptist Convention. The Village and its children have been a part of the Jackson scene since May, 1967.

Hotline Voice Is Mrs. Martha Belote

RICHMOND (BP) — The voice of Southern Baptists' Foreign Missions Hotline for the first time, a woman and a former missionary.

Martha Belote, former missionary to China, Hawaii and Hong Kong helps to provide the latest news of Baptist work in more than 80 countries around the world, and also gives everyday thoughts and prayers requests of Southern Baptist missionaries on the field. She is a Mississippian.

Mrs. Belote is deputation coordinator for the Southern Baptist

Foreign Mission Board and is in charge of scheduling missionary speakers for conferences and camps. Her husband, James D. Belote served as the board's secretary for East Asia from 1968 until his death in March 1975.

The Missions Hotline began its sixth consecutive year on Nov. 15 and will run through Dec. 15. The prerecorded message, which will be changed each Thursday, will be available for the price of a three-minute station-to-station call to Richmond, Va., to (804) 355-8881.

CHILDREN—CHRISTMAS—CONCERN

YOU CAN FIND THE SEASON'S
MEANING IN HELPING US BRING
COMFORT AND JOY TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN.



A GOOD GIFT: A package under the Village tree for a child of your selection or ours. Packages may be mailed or delivered.

A BETTER GIFT: A Christmas remembrance of clothing from you to one of our boys or girls. Contact us for names, needs and sizes.

THE BEST GIFT: A generous cash contribution to our HOLIDAY FUND. Our greatest need again this Christmas is cash contributions from individuals to a HOLIDAY FUND which will supply each child with a modest material remembrance at Christmas and underwrite our food and milk budget for the entire new year.

On the Jackson Campus, On the Farrow Manor Campus,
At the New Albany Satellite Home,
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Call—Jackson—922-2242

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Time For Action

Messengers to the Mississippi Baptist Convention adopted unanimously a resolution encouraging members of the churches to "speak to their legislators and other elected officials about instigating some new and effective legislation against the sale of pornography in our state."

Evidently, at this time there is very little that can be done in Mississippi to curb the sale of obscene materials. As the resolution points out, according to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling, pornography is not protected under the free speech clause of the constitution. The question comes in trying to define what is pornographic. Again, the Supreme Court has declared that pornography can be defined as that material which appeals to prurient interest and which has no redeeming social value according to the contemporary standards of the community.

This leaves the definition of pornography in the hands of the local community. This is fine except that in Mississippi the state Supreme Court has ruled that laws are too broad and not sufficiently specific to "restrain the sale of obscene materials, including pornographic movies," according to the words of the resolution. Therefore they have been declared unconstitutional.

Personally...

The time is here again for the annual drive to raise money for suits for Montana preachers.

This is a worthwhile effort. I know. Last December it is a real privilege for me to spend a week in Montana in a World Missions Conference. This was a very enjoyable experience.

The Montana pastors are well-dressed. They have to take a back seat to nobody in being presentable themselves as they present the gospel of Christ in that pioneer mission field.

Again this year laymen of Mississippi will see to it that Montana pastors

This decision by the state Supreme Court was not unanimous.

Nevertheless, the court has spoken, leaving law-enforcement officials powerless to cope with the sale of material that is more than likely to come back and haunt them in the form of a degenerating moral climate, which in turn can lead to serious consequences.

The reasons are not clear why it is that when the U. S. Supreme Court has placed the power of defining obscenity within the responsibility of the local community, the state Supreme Court can determine that such is not the case in Mississippi. As has been mentioned, the state Supreme Court was not completely positive about Mississippi being an exception, as three justices dissented. They were Judges Gillespie, Sugg, and Robertson.

Since we have been declared to be an exception, however, it seems there are three courses of action available. The easy road would be to leave the situation as it is. This is also the least attractive. In fact, it is not attractive at all. Another route, evidently, would be to take a case involving the sale of pornographic material into the federal courts. This, however, would be very time consuming and expensive. Additionally, it would be difficult to become organized on the basis necessary to

carry out such a plan of action. Who would take the action, who would finance it, etc.

The Mississippi Supreme Court did not indicate that it favored the sale of pornography. It is likely that the court would wish to do away with it completely. The majority of the court seemed to feel, however, that existing laws are not conducive to carrying out such actions.

The simple solution is to change the law. This could be done during the short term of the Legislature beginning in January, and perhaps our lawmakers will feel disposed to give attention to it.

This publication has no way of determining what the extent of the pornographic business nationwide would be. What can be determined is that this business is a parasite gnawing away at the character of our nation. It is without doubt a highly lucrative business, as is evidenced by the fact that those engaged in it continue to resist every effort of aroused citizens and law enforcement officials to get rid of its product. They continue to search for every loophole in the law in order to stay in business in spite of the fact that they are aware that a large portion of the public is not sympathetic with their efforts.

This is a business we can do without very well.

have new suits at Christmas.

The impact is not lost on the Montana pastors. Over and over, during my stay, the pastors expressed their appreciation for the suits.

This is not a haphazard operation. These are good suits, and they are given to men who are working hard in a land where Southern Baptists are not numerous. These suits are effective tools in the effort to spread the gospel.

Though the work is small in Montana, it is not second class. Montana Southern Baptists meet in attractive, comfortable buildings; and to some

degree this, too, is a result of the efforts of Mississippians. Mississippi has adopted Montana, and our folks and churches here have been of great benefit. A number of Mississippi churches have Montana churches in their budgets. Several of the Montana pastors are former Mississippians.

They are a long way from home, so let's not forget them at Christmas. In fact, let's not forget them the year around as we seek ways we can aid the work there.

Swor Makes

Available SBC Convention Speech

Dr. Chester E. Swor of Jackson, internationally known lecturer and author, delivered an address before the Southern Baptist Convention in Norfolk this year. The address was titled "Let the Church Stand Up and Speak with a Clear Voice to its Youth."

Dr. Swor has made this message available in mimeographed form to all who would desire copies. They may be obtained by writing Chester E. Swor, 902 Whitworth Street, Jackson, MS 39202.

Dr. Swor has been in demand as a lecturer and an author for many years. For more than 30 years he has been engaged in writing and lecturing on a full-time basis. Before that he was dean of students and professor of English at Mississippi College.

DISTRIBUTION OF COOPERATIVE PROGRAM FUNDS

October 1, 1975-September 30, 1976

	Operating Budget	Capital Needs	Challenge Funds	Total
Convention Operating	\$ 424,000.00		\$ 47,850.92	\$ 471,850.92
Annuity Board	250,000.00		28,338.89	278,338.89
Foreign Mission Board	20,400,000.00		2,320,537.39	22,720,537.39
Home Mission Board	7,000,150.00		870,143.46	7,870,293.46
Golden Gate Seminary	783,223.00	183,000.00	88,733.27	1,054,956.27
Midwestern Seminary	790,494.00		80,662.40	871,156.40
New Orleans Seminary	1,400,187.00	80,000.00	170,033.35	1,650,220.35
Southeastern Seminary	1,365,051.00		143,582.76	1,508,633.76
Southern Seminary	1,584,196.00	425,000.00	213,238.57	2,222,434.57
Southern Baptist Foundation	2,379,827.00	321,000.00	269,451.78	2,970,278.78
American Baptist Seminary	108,091.00		12,079.87	120,170.87
Brotherhood Commission	113,700.00		13,008.01	126,708.01
Christian Life Commission	409,806.00		46,457.21	456,263.21
Education Commission	278,761.00		31,500.90	310,261.90
Historical Commission	187,737.00		21,370.32	209,107.32
Radio & TV Commission	150,225.00		18,118.33	168,343.33
Stewardship Commission	1,384,580.00	70,300.00	219,278.81	1,674,158.81
Public Affairs Committee	201,505.00		22,764.06	224,269.06
	171,241.00		19,512.02	190,753.02
Total	\$41,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$4,845,720.53	\$46,725,720.53

Received of Mississippi

Distributed as follows:

	Cooperative Program
Convention Operating	\$ 22,052.74
Annuity Board	13,008.64
Foreign Mission Board	1,065,639.97
Home Mission Board	399,612.27
Golden Gate Seminary	49,300.48
Midwestern Seminary	41,135.59
New Orleans Seminary	81,732.74
Southeastern Seminary	65,861.50
Southern Seminary	117,890.30
Southern Baptist Foundation	138,820.95
American Baptist Seminary	5,618.35
Brotherhood Commission	5,925.65
Christian Life Commission	21,314.96
Education Commission	14,504.81
Historical Commission	9,772.98
Radio & Television Commission	8,291.58
Stewardship Commission	103,930.11
Public Affairs Committee	10,457.98
TOTAL	\$2,183,804.76

Letters To The Editor

Information Needed

Dear Sir:

As part of our efforts at local history preservation, we are seeking pictures and vital facts and dates on former pastors of our church, Mashulaville, formerly Elim (Noxubee Association.)

Through the Baptist Record would you please request descendants of the following named former pastors to contact me, especially if they have a picture which may be copied.

James B. McLelland 1850's, W. H. Carroll—1884, J. M. Nicholson—1886, L. M. Stone—1887, W. B. Williams—1888, J. L. Graham—1890, J. W. Sturdivant—1899, H. M. Long—1900, G. E. McDaniel—1901, Henry Evans—1910, G. D. Maum—1912, and B. B. Coke—1914.

I would also like to solicit information from any former pastors in the Noxubee County Association since 1922, pictures and biographical data along with an account of their pastorates within the county.

E. Q. Richards, Church Clerk
Mashulaville Baptist Church,
Rt. 1, Box 81,
Macon, Miss. 39341

Long-Time Reader

Dear Editor:

I was glad to read that you will get up the history of the Baptist Record. I know I have read the Record as soon as I could read. In fact I can't remember when we first took it as that was before my time. I do know my whole family read it from front to back. I am 77 years and that would make it 72 and I think I was reading at four.

I have some minutes of Hebron Church and the pastors who served there. My father O. B. Thornton and my mother never missed an association (Harmony). I have old copies of that. Two Indians, Joe York and Solomon Stoley, always attended. I have two pictures, one of Good Hope, Madison and Standing Pine. My father and mother are both in them. I recognize several of the old preachers.

You know, Leake County was famous for its preachers and teachers. I can remember a lot of them. They always came on Saturday and spent the night with us. The church was left without members and just faded away. We, my family, joined Camden then. But the kin still go there on Saturday before second Sunday and have dinner on the ground which was the custom as the meeting always started on second Sunday. We have now a fence around the cemetery and have built a shed with iron posts against fire. (The church burned.) All the years we had school there also.

We had some grand preachers at Hebron and at Camden also.

Hoping to hear from you, I am—

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ellie T. Hamilton
Box 101
Camden, MS 39045

Book Reviews

THE NEW SEASONING by Graham Kerr (Fleming H. Revell, \$7.95, 237 pp.) The author of *The Galloping Gourmet* expresses his vast knowledge of nutrition and delight in fine food preparation, in the glory of his new-found Christian faith. Believing that mealtimes should be times of loving communication and harmony, he offers a plan for family cooperation. He tells how to create a workable food budget and gives sensible diet information, together with recipes and pointers on techniques of good marketing and efficient cooking methods.

TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN by William R. Lasky with James F. Scheer (Doubleday, \$7.95, 271 pp.) William Lasky's father was co-founder of Paramount Pictures. Lasky himself worked in many famous films in capacities ranging from animal trainer to assistant director. At one time his wealthy family owned five Rolls-Royces and a private railroad car. Yet, years later, Lasky came to such a time of black despair that he wanted nothing but death. Then he remembered his childhood goodness and her stories of Jesus, and he knelt and cried, "Jesus, help me!" This book is the story of how Jesus helped him.

THE JOY OF DISCOVERY by Elaine B. Brister (Broadman, 153 pp., \$3.95) Elaine Brister has lived most of her life in Louisiana, but she tells in this book how she discovered through her friendship with nine women missionaries that people around the world are responding to the good news of Christ. She tells enough of the lives of these nine women to show how their wisdom, compassion, and wit have helped them maintain a creative balance in their roles as homemakers and missionaries.



Junk Mail—Real Junk!

Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Christmas, 1952. Stars were big and bright in the wide Texas sky. Choirs were singing carols. One cold night I stood on a corner in front of a Fort Worth liquor store and handed out tracts until the manager of the store decided I was trying to picket his business, and chased me away. In Hawaiian muumuu I rode in a parade, on a float called "Christmas Around the World." And I learned that happiness is giving, literally, every penny that you have to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

As usual, the Southwestern Seminary student body set a high goal for the offering, one that sounded to me like an impossible challenge. The YWA on our corner of second floor, Woman's Building, met one night shortly before the holidays. Chances for reaching our group goal looked slim.

In our meeting Betty Jean Weeks (now Betty Jean Dowdle of Columbus) told the story, "The Unexpected Christmas Guest," an imaginary account of Christ's visit to the home of Mary Gray. She closed the story with the words, "What if Christ suddenly stood in your home on Christmas Day? If you saw him looking at the gifts you made to your family and friends and the decorations in your living room, and then if you saw in His nail-scarred hand the offering you gave Him, would you be as embarrassed as Mary Gray? I am passing on to you that question He once asked his disciples—'Do ye not remember?'"

I believe that the others felt then, as I did, a keen awareness of His presence

as our Guest that night. All of us suddenly knew that we had not given all we could.

Back in my room I pondered the question, "Where will I find more money?" One girl had sold her typewriter, but I did not have one. Another had decided to fast for two days and give the food money. I was eating on a scholarship, and simply signed a book in the cafeteria, so I did not have food money. My billfold held loose change I was saving for coffee breaks. I emptied that. My coin collection included a \$2 bill, an Indian head penny, and two silver dollars. I decided to give those. My checking account contained \$7.00 I was saving to buy gifts for my family. I wrote a check for that. With sheer, indescribable joy I returned to give my additional offering, as did the others. It was small, but I knew that He could multiply it as He had the loaves and fish. Before midnight we met our goal.

Christmas, 1976. The offering goal of \$20,000,000 may seem impressive until we realize it will be stretched to 80 countries.

At Morrison Heights Church in Clinton our goal is \$6,500. Ramona Hill and I direct the activities of the fifth grade GAs. These girls have been saving gifts for the Lottie Moon Offering: Robin, Annett, Nancy, Laurie, Sarah, Faith, Amy, Cynthia, Leah, and Beth. Like the angel who first brought the message, they too will be spreading Good News of a Great Joy.

'76 Montana Suit Fund Operation Gets Under Way

An open letter to Baptist Men's presidents in churches in Mississippi concerning the annual offering to buy suits for preachers in Montana has been written by Elmer Howell, director of the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The Brotherhood Department each year sponsors the drive to raise money to buy suits for the Montana preachers.

Howell's letter and a letter of gratitude from a Montana pastor for the suits presented last year and some information on the work in that state are presented.

Dear Baptist Men's President... The purpose of this letter is to give you and the Baptist Men of your church an opportunity to participate in the mission project of giving a suit to each Southern Baptist preacher in Montana this Christmas.

The Baptist Men of Mississippi have been participating in this project for several years. I have recently had many inquiries from men asking, "When are you going to ask us to send in our money?" I suppose that's what I am doing right now.

We have received information from Montana, giving us the measurements and color preferences. The preachers were asked for these details, and they have sent the information themselves.

On the enclosed sheet we would like to share with you a letter of gratitude (we have received many similar letters) which we have received from Brother Bob Walker, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Glasgow, Montana.

If you would like to take part in this mission venture, please make your check payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, designating it for the Montana Suit Fund. Address your envelope to the Brotherhood Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Mississippi 39205.

Most sincerely,
Elmer Howell

Letter Of Gratitude

Below is one of the letters of thanks received by the Brotherhood Depart-

ment as a result of the suits given to pastors in Montana at Christmas:

"Rev. Elmer Howell
Mississippi Baptist Convention
Box 530
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
Dear Bro. Howell:

I would like to express my thanks for the suits that you have already given to me personally. I would again thank you fine people of Mississippi for your generosity.

I would like to share with you a little of the work that has been going on here this past year. During this calendar year we have led about 70 souls to our Lord Jesus. Of this number we have had 38 baptized and join this fellowship in Christ's love. An additional 12 have come by letter.

This past summer we were able to turn our mission in Malta, Montana, over to a full time pastor when Rev. Bruce from Mid-America came to serve on the Malta field. We are now beginning another work some 50 miles east of here, and again I believe the Lord will bless our efforts in a tremendous way.

You might share with Bro. Lester Jones that this past summer we were able to purchase a newer and larger bus. We also purchased some nice padded pews from a church in Lubbock, Texas.

God has been so good to us, and you fine men have been so gracious to us here on the Northern Plains. I have had the good fortune through Christ of working with that fine gentleman, Lester Jones, and more recently we were served by Don Ball (Summer student missionary), who is also from Mississippi. Believe me both of these men were truly a blessing to us here. And Bro. Lester taught me the most important thing that I have learned in this ministry for my Lord... and that is soul winning... praise God. I love it.

Again, thanks from the bottom of my heart, and we will continue to pray that God might continue to use you in such a great way.

Your brother in Christ,
Bob Walker, pastor
Calvary Baptist Church
Glasgow, Montana"

The Baptist Record
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Jackson, Miss 39201

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Tim Nicholas Associate Editor
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Official Journal of the
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CONVENTION BOARD
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Calhoun Stewardship Emphasis

Calhoun County Baptist Association has organized for stewardship promotion with Roy Davis, front row center, a member of Sherman Baptist Church, as the chairman of the Stewardship Committee. The 49 churches in the association have been organized into five groups with a leader for each. They are Danny Bailey, front left, a member of New Hope Church; Darrell Maddox, front right, First Church, Bruce; Henry Green West, back left, Spring Hill Church; Dave Edwards, back center, Mount Comfort Church; and Rad White, back right, Macedonia Church. Each of these men is a layman. On Nov. 2 they began planning with Missions Director Hollis V. Bryant a special county-wide program on stewardship.



Sixty laymen appeared in Calhoun County Association churches during November for stewardship speaking engagements. There were two men to each team, one for a stewardship testimony and one for a stewardship message. The men attended a supper meeting in preparation for their engagements. They were as follows: (Front row) Richard Vanlandingham, David Neal, Paul Tyler, Dan Parker, David Mitchell, Anthony C. Hardin, Roy M. Davis, County Missionary H. V. Bryant, James Swanson. (Second row) Carl W. Massey, R. W. Mallory, J. W. Meadows, Phillip Tallant, Darrell Maddox, James Caulder, Rad White, Walter Glenn, Ruel Spratlin, J. B. Ramage. (Back row) Thomas Schmitz, William Starks, Ronald Ross, Kenneth R. Bailey, Danny Spratlin, John Wendell Lancaster, Charles C. Hardin, Jimmy Murphree, David E. Edwards, Dudley R. Davis, Jr.

Calvary Launches Visitation Program, Called "Love"

Calvary Church, Jackson, has launched an extensive weekly program of visitation and prayer, with well over 100 persons already enlisted and others being added each week.

Dr. Joe H. Tuten, pastor said that the new venture, which is called "LOVE," is a personal commitment program in which those who participate sign a card saying in effect that "because they love the Lord Jesus Christ, they will follow a definite program of prayer, Bible reading and visitation."

M. B. Swogetsky, outreach director of the Sunday School, who is directing the program, said that visitation is conducted every Thursday night each month.

The project was begun Thursday night, Oct. 14, with 1,055 visits recorded in October.

Those participating are given names of unchurched and unenlisted people to visit, with numerical reports recorded each week on a huge chalkboard.

Mr. Swogetsky said that a fellowship dinner is held once each quarter

with the next one set for Dec. 30 when wild game will be served.

Mr. T. O. Winstead is director of the Sunday School.

New England Aims At Convention Status

(Continued from page 17)

After it becomes a state convention it must have 25,000 members, under the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) constitution, before it is eligible to have trustees elected to SBC boards and agencies.

The Baptist General Association of New England is currently divided into three "local" associations, with a division into four planned for 1977. Its churches are in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Southern Baptists now have 33 state conventions, with 34,902 churches and 12.7 million members in all 50 states.



Our Church And The Cooperative Program

By Charles E. Griffith
Pastor, Russell Church

A college student was concerned about his roommate who was not a Christian. The roommate, a brilliant mathematics student, could solve any math problem. The friend, being wise for his age, handed him a piece of paper and asked him to solve the problem on it when he had the time. Later, the student opened the paper to see what the problem was. And this was it: "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" As a result of the problem this young man was saved.

I would like to take that and apply it to the church. What shall it profit the church that holds all of its money to itself when a world of people are losing their souls?

I believe in the Cooperative Program. Our church believes in the Cooperative Program. That's why we give 20% and hope to continue to increase it.

I have noticed that the churches which grow spiritually, physically, and financially are the mission-minded churches. You can't be any more mission-minded than the Cooperative Program.

God has blessed us. In a year when we completed an \$85,000 education plant, we increased our Cooperative Program percentage. We find the more we give, the more God gives to us.

I notice some churches do not give through the Cooperative Program. If you plan to grow, you must turn loose to missions and let the Lord control your church finances. That's what we do.

Revival Dates

Rock Bluff (Smith): December 2-5; Rev. James Landrum, evangelist; George Boone, music director; Rev. William Caten, pastor; services at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 2-4; at 10:45 a.m. on Dec. 5.

Personal Needs Of Missionaries

By David R. Grant

Editor's Note: Dr. David R. Grant, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson and past president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, recently completed an around-the-world trip for the purpose of missions awareness. Over the next several weeks a series of articles by Dr. Grant will discuss his trip.

One of the things I had been personally interested in knowing was what a local church could do for missionaries and their families over and beyond the three basics of supporting through the Cooperative Program, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, and prayer. I had in mind little things for individuals and families. I also had in mind some things churches could do and would enjoy doing that were not being provided through the Foreign Mission Board.

A thing that impressed me tremendously was the fact that no missionary ever had a derogatory remark to make about the board and his relation to it. They were very discreet in making any comment in regard to any need. It was only after a lengthy dialogue and I had adequately clarified my point that anything at all was said.

In this article, I want to share some of these deep feelings. There was the desire to have some tapes of worship services sent to them. With longing in the eye and pathos in the voice, time after time an expression was made to this effect. We were in one area and did not know one missionary personally, nor did he know us. When I raised the question, "Would you listen to our worship service if I sent it to you on a cassette tape?" the answer was with a big sigh, "Would we? I should say we would!"

Discussing the same matter with another missionary, he said, "Man, I would like to hear even the announcements just to know what someone else is doing." In conversation with another missionary in still another country, I quoted the man about the announcements. He said, "That expresses my feelings." Some of our missionaries whom I knew personally expressed a desire for tapes with church music. Such conversations as these were held around the world. I returned to Broadmoor Baptist Church, related what I heard to our people, and we are already in the tape ministry to the uttermost parts of the earth.

One night my son, David, was in conversation with a family while I was attending a revival service. He posed our stock question in my absence. I think the answer given him was one of the more moving emotional experiences of the whole trip. They said, "We live out away from most missionaries. When our children have birthdays there is no one around to help us celebrate except the family." Then they said, "If someone, somewhere would just get in touch with our children on special occasions, it would be appreciated." You can be assured when this was told from the pulpit of Broadmoor Baptist Church, our people readily responded to the idea and from now on some of those children will be hearing from someone. I hope others can do the same.

We found some things that the missionaries could use personally. An example is a garden tiller plow. This is something that cannot be bought in most countries even if funds were available. Some of the families have gardens and fill deep freezes. In a casual conversation, two different men, almost in passing, expressed a desire for such equipment. The ushers of our church are sending one of them and the home church of the other missionary is doing the same after I shared with them this need.

There are so many little things churches can do that can and will be of tremendous help. One missionary was sharing with us the need of teaching pictures like we use in our elementary departments. She assured me that our castoffs were sufficient. As we talked about this particular item, she stated that on previous occasions churches had agreed to send their old pictures but never got around to it. Immediately I started determining a way Broadmoor could do such a thing on a sustained basis. We are now doing that.

Priorities are a big thing on the mission field. The needs far exceed the fondest hope of getting them. Therefore, each mission makes up the budget with a list of things needed. It was my privilege to drop in where a budget committee was meeting. Kidnappingly I said, "What are your priorities?" The answer was, "Do you want our big ones or little ones?" From that discussion, I learned that one of our seminaries is in need of books for the seminary library. I asked the librarian for a list of her needs. When I received the list and made the fact known to our church, in one service every book was purchased by that evening.

So there are personal needs and/or desires, and there are mission needs. Many of these can and would be met if we just had a way of knowing. I am thrilled that our church is excited about doing little things for our friends a long, long way from home. It may be that others in other churches are interested. If so, let me know and I'll be glad to share needs.

Next I shall tell of the need of help for personnel.

heart and wipe your tears away with poignant happy memories. Bring out a few of the not-so-happy memories, too, for it is unrealistic to remember someone as having been perfect.

When your heart has settled and you feel a miracle has been worked there, breathe a prayer of thanks to God for it is a miracle, indeed — this Christ in Christmas, whose "peace on earth" includes your heart, even on this first Christmas with one missing.

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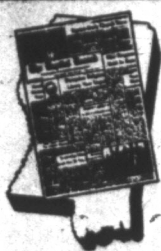
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Just For The Record



First Church of Glendale (Lebanon) recently held groundbreaking services for a new sanctuary and office wing. Construction is due to be completed within eight to nine months. From left, the Rev. Cliff Estes, pastor; Bill Killgore, chairman of deacons and member of building committee; Homer Thompson, Sunday School director and building committee; Jerry Howell, chairman of the committee, and Max Wainwright, member of the committee. James Dillon, Building Committee, not pictured. The building program also calls for the renovation of the interim auditorium into educational space and a choir suite. The new sanctuary will seat about 630. (Photo by Mini Ekes)

Arlington Church Recaptures "Old-Fashioned Attitude Of Gratitude"

Arlington Church, Lincoln County, celebrated Thanksgiving with an "Old Fashioned Day" on November 21. The wearing of the dress of yesterday, helped minds turn back the pages of time, and a day of praise and Thanksgiving recalled the many blessings God had bestowed on individual Christians and the church community. Songs of days gone by were sung, testimonies of God's blessings were given, prayers for God's goodness and mercy were offered. The pastor Rev.

Bob Ammons preached on "The Old Fashioned Attitude of Gratitude." The scripture reading was from Psalm 100 and Ephesians 5:20. An "Old Fashioned Dinner on the Ground" was served. After lunch an "Old Fashion Singing" was led by the music director, Charles Grice. The closing prayer of thanksgiving and dedication was given by the chairman of the deacons, Harold Montgomery.

Central Church, Brookhaven observed Senior Citizen Day Sunday, November 28. The "Young at Heart" group from Central filled the choir. Rev. Leonard Smith, retired pastor, brought the morning message. Homer Case directed the music with Mrs. Versie Wooley playing the piano. Lunch was served to the Senior Citizens by the church. The Rev. H. Glen Schilling is pastor and Mike Grim is minister of music and youth and director of the Young at Heart.

Swiftwater Church, Route 2, Greenville, will have a Lay Renewal Weekend on December 3, 4, and 5. Sidney Ellis is the coordinator and Huey Roden is general chairman. The Rev. Troy Pearson is interim pastor.

Louin Church will dedicate their new parsonage Dec. 5 with Dr. Foy Rogers as speaker. The service will begin at 2:30 p.m. with Open House to continue until 4 p.m. Rev. Howard Davis is pastor.

Names In The News

Rev. Peter McLeod of Waco, Texas challenged Blue Mountain College students to "develop a higher self-image of themselves and to experience life rather than just talk about it," as he opened a 2-day series of lectures on the BMC campus. Rev. McLeod, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Waco, was on the Blue Mountain campus through a grant from the Thomas W. Staley Foundation of New York.

Mary-Frank Kirkpatrick, missionary to Nigeria, West Africa, will be coming to Mississippi for a Christmas holiday visit with her mother, Mrs. J. M. Kirkpatrick of Noxapater, and other relatives and friends. She will arrive in Jackson on Delta Airlines Flight 709, Tuesday, December 14, at 2:57 p.m. She expects to be in the state about one month.



Three young men have been licensed to the gospel ministry at Arlington Heights Church, Pascagoula. Each preached a portion of the evening service on a recent Sunday. Left to right: Eddie Miller, Randall Broome, and James Walters. The Rev. Bob Horner is pastor.

Major and June McDaniels, missionaries to Korea, will be coming to Mississippi on furlough in December, 1977, and not in December, 1976, as stated in a recent news release.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Holfield, missionaries to Italy, may be addressed at Via Antelao, 14-00141, Rome, Italy. Both are natives of Mississippi.

Dr. James Downey, professor of music history and literature at William Carey College, was one of the featured speakers at the Bicentennial meeting of the American Musicological Society in Washington, D. C. on November 6. His topic was "Revivalism as an Influence in American Cultural Development, 1740-1976."

Cynthia Paige Hill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Hill, missionaries at the Baptist Spanish Publishing House, El Paso, Tex., married Daniel J. Garvey II on October 29 in El Paso. Her parents may be addressed at P. O. Box 4255, El Paso, Tex. 79914. Mrs. Hill is the former Cornice Winter of Grenada County, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. Hal B. Lee, missionaries to France, may be addressed at 9, rue Pasteur, 92210 Saint Cloud, France. Before they were appointed in 1962, he was pastor of Vancleave (Miss.) Baptist Church.

Devotional

"Which Way, Lord?"

By Jasper Collins, Pastor, Bovina Mission, Vicksburg
The Bible teaches numerous moral and spiritual truths, therefore, I attempt only four under the general theme above.

"THE INWARD LOOK"

"Behold thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom" (Psalm 51:6).

His understanding of the "INWARD LOOK" convinces David that God's truths should be the first ingredient sought to bring spiritual reality to man. God alone can accomplish this miracle since the old "LAWS" proved insufficient, being without the qualities of love, compassion, and personal consideration. From personal intellectual and moral background, David realized that knowledge alone wasn't sufficient to produce correct moral or spiritual human behavior. He concluded that God's truths would produce "WISDOM," which is knowledge properly applied.

The concept in Jeremiah 31:33-34 depicts this prophet looking forward hundreds of years beyond his own lifetime, to a day in which God would again commit himself as man's "I AM," God. This passage indicates a time when God, through the work of the Holy Spirit, would write His truths with the finger of love and compassion upon the hearts of men and not upon a "STONE" without feeling.

After an "INWARD LOOK," Paul's instructions in Romans 7:21-22 and II Corinthians 4:16 are invaluable. Finding in his life the inability of knowledge alone to satisfy either moral or spiritual needs, Paul admitted to a continuing warfare between good and evil, competing for his (time) life, his (body) flesh, and his (inner man) intellect. Paul assures a spiritual renewing day by day as God's Spirit motivates man to search inwardly concerning our relationship to Himself.

Knowing these things brethren, "Let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

five months all the neighbors knew that the elderly Elisabeth was indeed pregnant and joyful. THE ANGEL GABRIEL VISITS NAZARETH (1:26-23)

In the sixth month of Elisabeth's pregnancy, the angel appeared to a young woman in Nazareth, a town of Galilee. Gabriel was one of seven angels mentioned in Daniel and some books of the Apocrypha. Mary was promised (being "espoused" was a much stronger relationship than a modern engagement) to a man of David's lineage named Joseph. Even before the ceremony she was considered his legal wife. She was disturbed by the angel's greeting and wondered

what it meant. Gabriel's announcement from God became more astounding. Urging her not to be fearful, he said God had been gracious to her. She would become pregnant and bear a son, and she would name him Jesus—or Joshua, in Hebrew. It was not an unusual name, but the angel's next words revealed he was describing the Messiah.

The angel must have spoken gently; not only would Mary have to endure the physical strain of childbirth, but she must face the questions of those who did not understand. Nevertheless, she responded: "I am the Lord's servant; may it happen to me as you have said" (TEV).

Sunday School Lesson: International For December 5

The Coming Announced

By Wm. J. Fallis
Mark 1:1-3; Luke 1:1-38
Three lessons leading up to Christmas get us started on twenty-one Sundays dealing with the life and ministry of Jesus based on Mark and Luke. Although these two Gospels, plus Matthew, have many similarities, they are distinctive in purpose, content, and writing style. Neither is a real biography of Jesus;



they are selective interpretations of the Master. Mark tells a fast-moving story of Jesus as triumphant Son of God. Luke draws on a variety of sources to picture Jesus as Savior for all kinds of people and the Lord with a universal mission. This combination will provide rich study opportunities. The Lesson Explained
GOD PROMISES A SON TO A PRIEST (Luke 1:5-25)
Although Zacharias was a priest and had been married for many years to Elisabeth of a priestly family, they had no children. A child would have been a sign of God's blessing to such a

righteous pair, their friends probably felt. Because thousands of priests were available for Temple services, any one priest might not be asked to burn incense more than once in his life. Despite these unlikely factors, Zacharias was confronted by an angel who promised that his wife would bear a son. Furthermore, he would be filled with the Holy Spirit from birth and would be a prophet "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord" (v. 17). When the amazed Zacharias asked for proof, the angel said the priest would not be able to speak until the child was born. His name was to be John. Within

is dependent upon good eating and digestion. Sometimes learning takes place in a moment like touching a hot iron. Experience is our only teacher. We must be able to apply what we learn. Some learning takes a long time because of our inability to understand. But if we are to grow, we must learn.

Christ set the example for a church in education. He spent much of his time teaching. It is hard to draw a line of distinction between preaching and teaching. They are not the same but they are intermingled so that you cannot always separate the two. His invitation to the multitudes was: "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Every action of a congregation has in it educational consequences. Some of this learning may take place where people gather to celebrate a birth, express love at death, at a marriage or in sickness. Experience in our best teaching.

Learning is a responsibility that must be shared by teacher and pupil. Jesus said many things the disciples did not understand. The right relationship with the teacher must be maintained. When Paul went to Berea, the people there were eager to hear and welcome the teaching with openness of mind. Day by day the Bereans searched the scriptures with their new teachers to see if what they were saying was true. It surely must have been a genuine group experience in Bible study. As they examined the word together they had only one objective in mind—to learn the truth. Their study led them to the truth. Many of them believed. Men who truly seek, truly find.

The church was given some teachers. These had special aptitude and training for teaching others. However in the larger sense, all the members were teachers and all the members were learners.

Life and Work For December 5

Learning Together

By Bill Duncan, Pastor, First, Long Beach
Matthew 11:28-30; Hebrews 5:11-14; Acts 17:18-19; Colossians 3:16
Elton Trueblood has written in his book *The Incendiary Fellowship*, that the church is the base and the world is the field of operation. The church has two needs: to gather and to scatter. The church gathers together from time to time so that it can scatter into the world as it fulfills its mission.



What do we do when we gather? Our Southern Baptist concept of the purpose of the church is to worship, witness, educate, minister,

and apply Christian truth. This lesson is calling our attention to the fact that we come together to learn from one another.

Jesus called his followers disciples. The term "disciple" signifies a learner who is being taught or trained. Then it came to mean a relationship. Jesus is the Teacher who gathers seekers after truth to whom he reveals the great secrets of all true life.

This concept is a true ideal of our position. We are not casual listeners. We are not merely interested hearers desiring information. We are disciples looking toward and desiring the same end as the Master, and therefore listening to every word, marking every inflection of the voice that carries meaning, and applying all our energy to realizing the Teacher's purpose for us.

"To educate is to lead persons to the knowledge and acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, to teach and train the church's constituency to perform the functions of their churches and to help them develop toward full Christian maturity."

Persons may be taught truths of the Christian life before they accept Christ. However, most learning in the Christian life begins with conversion experience. Learning is essential to the growth of every redeemed person. Education is the process by which persons grow in understanding, form new attitudes, and develop actions consistent with the example of Christ. The teacher that Jesus left on the earth when he went back to heaven is the Holy Spirit.

Christian growth is dependent upon good learning just as physical growth

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